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AKBAR GBAJABIAMILA VISITS ARUBA, ENJOYS A RELAXED VACATION

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Aruba TODAY

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Wednesday, August 20, 2014



Sisters De'Yonna, left, and Dashaun Sutton-Harris, join their father Whitman Harris in holding signs outside the Greater Grace Church during a rally for Michael Brown, the 18-year-old unarmed black man who was fatally shot by white police officer Darren Wilson, in Ferguson, Mo.

(Whitney Curtis The New York Times)

Ferguson Pledges Outreach Efforts After Shooting

FERGUSON, Missouri (AP) — Ferguson's leaders urged residents Tuesday to stay home after dark to "allow peace to settle in" and pledged to reconnect with the predominantly black community in the St. Louis suburb where the fatal shooting of an unarmed black 18-year-old by a

white police officer has sparked nightly clashes between protesters and law enforcement. According to a statement from the city, officials have been exploring how to increase the number of African-American applicants to the law enforcement academy and raise funds

for cameras that would be attached to patrol car dashboards and officers' vests. "We plan to learn from this tragedy," the leaders said in the statement Tuesday. Benjamin Crump, an attorney for Brown's family, said Michael Brown's funeral and memorial service would be

Monday, though the time and location haven't been finalized. The National Guard arrived in Ferguson this week but kept its distance from the streets during another night of unrest. Protesters filled the streets after nightfall Monday, and officers fired tear gas and flash grenades.

Capt. Ron Johnson of the Missouri Highway Patrol, who is in charge of security in Ferguson, said bottles and Molotov cocktails were thrown from the crowd and some officers had come under heavy gunfire.

Continued on Page 3

Holder brings civil rights push to racial crisis

WASHINGTON (AP) — Eric Holder talks about the nation's civil rights struggles in a way no previous U.S. attorney general could — by telling his own family story. It's a legacy he'll likely draw on when he travels Wednesday to Ferguson, Missouri, to super-

ed him to sit down with his own 15-year-old son for a talk about the way a young black male must act and speak if confronted by police — the same talk his father had given him decades earlier.

"I had to do this to protect my boy," the nation's first

may help reassure the community when he visits.

"It's a powerful message," said William Yeomans, a law school fellow at American University who worked in the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division for more than two decades. "He's the embodiment of law



President Barack Obama meets with Attorney General Eric Holder in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington. Holder, who is leading the federal response to the racial turmoil in Ferguson, Missouri, talks about the nation's civil rights struggles in a way none of the 81 previous U.S. attorneys general could - by telling his own family story.

(AP Photo/Charles Dharapak)

vises the federal investigation of the fatal shooting of a black 18-year-old by a white police officer.

As Holder increasingly pushes his Justice Department to protect voting rights and end unfair prison sentences and police brutality, he has drawn on personal history to make the case that the nation has much work to do to achieve justice for all.

Holder tells how his father, an immigrant from Barbados proudly wearing his World War II uniform, was ejected from a whites-only train car.

How his future sister-in-law, escorted by U.S. marshals, integrated the University of Alabama in spite of a governor who stood in the schoolhouse door to block her. How as a college student, he was twice pulled over, his car searched, even though he wasn't speeding.

And Holder recalls that the slaying of black teen Trayvon Martin in 2012 prompt-

ed him to sit down with his own 15-year-old son for a talk about the way a young black male must act and speak if confronted by police — the same talk his father had given him decades earlier.

President Barack Obama is sending Holder to Ferguson to bring the full weight of the federal government into the investigation of the death of another young black man, Michael Brown, who was unarmed when a white police officer shot him multiple times Aug. 9. Daily and nightly protests, sometimes marred by rioting and looting and met with tear gas and rubber-coated bullets from police, have rocked the suburban St. Louis community since. Holder has led an unusually fast and aggressive Justice Department response to the local case, sending teams of prosecutors and dozens of FBI agents to investigate and arranging a federal autopsy on top of one by local authorities.

Still, protesters in the streets say they aren't convinced justice will be done. Holder's record on civil rights and personal commitment

enforcement, and the positive contribution he can make here is to assure the community that the federal government is taking very seriously the quest for justice in this incident."

Holder reinvigorated a civil rights force at Justice, Yeomans said, that had been scaled back and demoralized during President George W. Bush's administration. Holder's department has been especially strong in going after police misconduct, both through criminal civil rights cases and lawsuits against police departments, Yeomans said.

His civil rights push got off to a difficult start, however. Shortly after taking office in February 2009, Holder called the United States "a nation of cowards" when it comes to talking about race in a Black History Month speech. Conservative backlash was swift. Holder quickly toned down his rhetoric while quietly rebuilding the division. □

As protests rage, Obama struggling to find his role

**JOSH LEDERMAN
Associated Press**

WASHINGTON (AP) —

When racial tensions erupted midway through his first presidential campaign, Barack Obama came to Philadelphia to decry the "racial stalemate we've been stuck in for years." Over time, he said, such wounds, rooted in America's painful history on race, can be healed.

Six years later, the stalemate suddenly seems more entrenched than ever. As Obama pleads for calm and understanding in Ferguson, Missouri, he's struggling to determine what role — if any — the nation's first black president can play in defusing a crisis that has laid bare the profound sense of injustice felt by African-Americans across the country.

As Obama sought to strike the appropriate tone Monday, he appeared to be trapped between the need, as president and commander in chief, to stand up for the government's right to ensure law and order, and the inclination, as an African-American, to empathize with those whose say the killing of an unarmed black man just goes to show how blacks are treated differently by police.

"In too many communities around the country, a gulf of mistrust exists between local residents and law enforcement. In too many communities, too many young men of color are left behind and seen only as objects of fear," Obama said at the White House, in his most expansive comments to date about the fatal shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown just outside St. Louis by a white policeman.

But while Obama lamented the disproportional apprehension of young black men, he pointedly argued that's not solely the fault of overzealous cops. Police officers must be honored and respected for the difficult job they per-

form, Obama said.

"There are young black men that commit crime," the president said. "We can argue about why that happens — because of the poverty they were born into and the lack of opportunity or school systems that fail them or what have you — but if they commit a crime, then they need to be prosecuted, because every community has an interest in public safety."

It's a delicate balance that's likely to leave no one fully satisfied.

Aiming to reassure edgy Americans that the federal government is fully engaged, Obama announced that Attorney General Eric Holder would travel Wednesday to Ferguson to meet with FBI and other officials carrying out an independent federal investigation into Brown's death. Obama said he also spoke to Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon, who has deployed National Guard units, and urged him to ensure the use of those units is limited and constructive. "I'll be watching over the next several days," the president said.

But there are no plans for Obama himself to visit Ferguson soon.

White House officials said they were mindful that a presidential visit, with all the security and logistics required, could divert law enforcement resources that are already stretched thin.

Obama also called for the U.S. to reassess the militarization of local police departments that have purchased military gear from the Pentagon. Federal grants for such equipment have come under intense scrutiny amid the alarming images of armored vehicles and tear gas canisters filling the streets of an American suburb.

"There is a big difference between our military and our local law enforcement," Obama said. "We don't want those lines blurred." □



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Islamic State claims to have beheaded American journalist

RUKMINI CALLIMACHI
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The Islamic State posted a video on Tuesday that it said showed the beheading of James Foley, an American journalist who was kidnapped in Syria nearly two years ago, according to a transcript released by the SITE Intelligence Group. The authenticity of the video, which was posted on YouTube, could not be immediately verified, and a telephone call placed to Foley's family was not immediately returned. YouTube later took down the 4-minute, 40-second video. Titled "A Message to America," the video shows the journalist kneeling in a deserted landscape, clad in an orange jumpsuit - an apparent reference to the uniforms worn by prisoners at the U.S. military detention camp in Guantánamo, Cuba. Standing to his left is a masked Islamic State fighter, who says that Foley's execution is in retaliation for the U.S. airstrikes ordered by President Barack Obama against the extremist group in Iraq.

Former hostages held alongside Foley in Syria - who were released earlier this year in exchange for multimillion-dollar ransoms - have said that before the airstrikes began, the Islamic State had been asking for money in exchange for Foley's release. "I call on my friends, family and loved ones to rise up against my real killers - the U.S. government - for what will happen to me is only a result of their complacent criminality," Foley says in the video, which was uploaded to the online account of the al-Furqan Media Foundation, according to SITE, which follows jihadist groups. □

Ferguson pledges outreach efforts after shooting

Continued from front

At least two people were shot and 31 were arrested, he said.

Police originally said 31 were arrested, but St. Louis County spokeswoman Candace Jarrett on Tues-

day said 57 people were booked at the county jail alone, and perhaps more at other jails in the region.

Demonstrators no longer faced the neighborhood's midnight-to-5 a.m. curfew, but police told protesters that they could not assemble in a single spot and had to keep moving. A large crowd also gathered Tuesday afternoon in nearby St. Louis after officers responding to a report of a store robbery shot and killed a knife-wielding man. Police Chief Sam Dotson said the suspect acted erratically and told responding officers

to "shoot me now, kill me now."

Some members of the crowd shouted "Hands up, don't shoot," a phrase that has become a frequent part of protests since Brown's death on Aug. 9. Like Brown, the 23-year-old suspect killed Tuesday

lice orders. The latest clashes came after a day in which a pathologist hired by Brown's family said he suffered a bullet wound to his right arm that may indicate his hands were up or his back was turned. But the pathologist said the team that ex-

brandishing his weapon. He said Brown started to run and the officer pursued him, firing multiple times. The independent autopsy determined that Brown was shot at least six times, including twice in the head, the family's lawyers and hired pathologists



Protesters march Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2014, for Michael Brown, who was killed by police Aug. 9 in Ferguson, Mo. Ferguson's leaders urged residents Tuesday to stay home after dark to "allow peace to settle in" and pledged several actions to reconnect with the predominantly black community in the St. Louis suburb where the fatal shooting of 18-year-old Michael Brown has sparked nightly clashes between protesters and police.

(AP Photo/Charlie Riedel)

day said 57 people were booked at the county jail alone, and perhaps more at other jails in the region. Demonstrators no longer faced the neighborhood's midnight-to-5 a.m. curfew, but police told protesters that they could not assemble in a single spot and had to keep moving.

A large crowd also gathered Tuesday afternoon in nearby St. Louis after officers responding to a report of a store robbery shot and killed a knife-wielding man. Police Chief Sam Dotson said the suspect acted erratically and told responding officers

was black. The crowd diminished, however, within hours.

In Ferguson, a photographer for Getty Images was arrested while covering the demonstrations and later released.

Two German reporters were arrested and detained for three hours. Conservative German daily Die Welt said correspondent Ansgar Graw and reporter Frank Herrmann, who writes for German regional papers, were arrested after allegedly failing to follow police instructions to vacate an empty street. They said they followed po-

liced Brown cannot be sure yet exactly how the wounds were inflicted until they have more information.

Witnesses have said Brown's hands were above his head when he was repeatedly shot in the street by an officer Aug. 9.

Police have said the officer was pushed into his squad car,

then physically assaulted during a struggle over his weapon.

But Brown's friend, Dorian Johnson, told reporters that the officer grabbed Brown's neck and tried to pull him into the car before

said.

The St. Louis County medical examiner's autopsy found that Brown was shot six to eight times in the head and chest, office administrator Suzanne McCune said Monday. But she declined to comment further, saying the full findings were not expected for about two weeks.

A grand jury could begin hearing evidence Wednesday to determine whether the officer, Darren Wilson, should be charged in Brown's death, said Ed Magee, spokesman for St. Louis County's prosecuting attorney. □

Perry reports to Texas courthouse for booking

**WILL WEISSERT
PAUL J. WEBER
Associated Press**

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Texas Governor Rick Perry on Tuesday arrived at a county courthouse to turn himself in to authorities and be booked on two felony counts of abuse of power by carrying out a threat to veto funding to state public corruption prosecutors. "I'm going to fight this injustice with every fiber of my being. And we will prevail," Perry said before walking into the Travis County Courthouse in Austin, where a grand jury indicted him last week. An arraignment has been set for Friday for Perry, the longest-serving governor in state history and a potential Republican candidate for president in 2016, but he may waive it and isn't expected to appear in person. The governor has dismissed

the case as a political ploy, laughing off concerns that it could be potentially unflattering as he strongly considers a second presidential run in 2016. Many top national conservatives are lining up to support him, including some potential future White House rivals. Perry was indicted Friday on charges of coercion and official oppression for publicly promising to veto \$7.5 million for the state public integrity unit, which investigates wrongdoing by elected officials and is run by the Travis County district attorney's office. Perry threatened the veto if the county's Democratic district attorney, Rosemary Lehmberg, stayed in office after a drunken driving conviction. Lehmberg refused to resign, and Perry carried out the veto, drawing an ethics complaint from a left-lean-

ing government watchdog group. Perry was indicted by a grand jury in Austin, a liberal bastion in otherwise fiercely conservative Texas. But he isn't letting the case keep him from a packed

travel schedule that will take him to the battleground states that would be key to winning the Republican Party's presidential nomination. After his 2012 presidential cam-

paign flamed out, the Republican opted not to seek re-election as governor in November — leaving him more time to focus on rehabilitating his image nationally. □



Texas Gov. Rick Perry, front right, is escorted away from the Blackwell Thurman Criminal Justice Center, Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2014, in Austin, Texas. Perry has been booked on two felony counts of abuse of power for carrying out a threat to veto funding to state public corruption prosecutors. (AP Photo/Eric Gay)

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NY police chokehold death to go to grand jury



Daniel Donovan, the district attorney for Staten Island, at his office in New York. Donovan said on Aug. 19 that a grand jury would investigate the death of Eric Garner, an unarmed black man whose death was ruled a homicide caused by a chokehold as well as the compression of his chest during an arrest.

(Richard Perry/The New York Times)

**MICHAEL R. SISAK
TOM HAYS
Associated Press**

NEW YORK (AP) — A New York prosecutor said Tuesday he would ask a grand jury to consider charges in the death of a black man placed in an apparent chokehold by a white police officer.

Staten Island District Attorney Daniel Donovan announced that an extra grand jury will be asked to hear evidence next month in the July 17 death of Eric Garner.

"I assure the public that I am committed to conducting a fair, thorough and responsible investigation into Mr. Garner's death, and that I will go wherever the evidence takes me, without fear or favor," Donovan said in a statement.

Garner, a 43-year-old father of six, could be heard on an amateur video shouting, "I can't breathe!" as Officer Daniel Pantaleo placed him in an apparent chokehold. Police said the officers were arresting Garner on suspicion of selling loose, untaxed cigarettes. A second video, which appeared to have been shot shortly after Garner was handcuffed, showed him lying on the sidewalk, apparently unresponsive. More than three minutes in, medics arrive and one checks his pulse. Garner is

lifted onto a gurney and transported to a waiting ambulance about two minutes later.

A bystander asks why no one is performing CPR and one officer responds, "because he's breathing." Garner, who had asthma, died a short time later.

The death sparked protests while raising questions about the use of policing tactics that critics say unfairly target residents of low-income communities. A few weeks later, tensions between police and minorities were renewed in Missouri, after a white police officer shot and killed an unarmed black 18-year-old.

Donovan said his decision to take the Garner case to a grand jury was based on his office's investigation and the medical examiner's ruling that the death was a homicide caused by neck compressions from the chokehold, chest compression and Garner's prone position while being restrained.

Donovan said a court granted his request for the extra grand jury on Monday.

Pantaleo, an eight-year NYPD veteran, was stripped of his gun and badge after Garner's death, and another officer was placed on desk duty. Two paramedics and two emergency medi-

cal technicians were suspended without pay.

Pantaleo's lawyer, Stuart London, said it was too early to say whether his client would testify before the grand jury.

Civil rights leader the Rev. Al Sharpton plans to lead a march to Donovan's office on Saturday. Protesters are calling for Donovan to file criminal charges or let federal prosecutors take over. Several members of New York's congressional delegation last week echoed the call for the Justice Department to investigate. They questioned whether Donovan, a Republican, could adequately investigate the case given his close working relationship with police and the borough's large population of police officers. □

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AP: Obama administration changing no-fly list rules

EILEEN SULLIVAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration is promising to change the way travelers can ask to be removed from its no-fly list of suspected terrorists banned from air travel.

The decision comes after a federal judge's ruling that there was no meaningful way to challenge the designation, a situation deemed unconstitutional. In response, the Justice Department said the U.S. will change the process during the next six months. As of late last summer, about 48,000 people were on the no-fly list.

The government's policy is never to confirm or deny that a person actually is on the no-fly list, citing national security concerns. In most instances, travelers assume they are on the list because they are instructed to go through additional screening at airports or because they are told they can't board their flights to, from or within the United States. The no-fly list is one of the government's most controversial post Sept. 11 counterterrorism programs because of its lack of due process, long criticized because people cannot know why they were placed on the list and lack a way to fight the decision. Changing how people can

challenge their designation could amount to one of the government's most significant adjustments to how it manages the list.

"It's long past time for the government to revamp its general procedures," said

violates their constitutional right to due process. Earlier this summer, a federal judge in Portland, Oregon, agreed with them. The Portland case is one of five around the country challenging some aspect of the

boarding who believe they are on the No Fly List."

One of the plaintiffs in the Portland lawsuit, Abe Mashal, was unable to print his boarding pass before a flight out of Chicago four years ago. A counter rep-

later the government responded, "no changes or corrections are warranted at this time." He appealed the decision in May 2011. Nine months later, the government said its ruling was final. The appeals process, known as redress, was started in 2007. The government receives tens of thousands of applications a year, according to court documents.

But 99 percent of those complaints are unrelated to the terror watch lists, the current director of the Terrorist Screening Center, Christopher Piehota, said in a November 2010 declaration related to a California no-fly list lawsuit. At the time, Piehota was deputy director of operations at the center, which determines whether someone is appropriately on a terror watch list.

In 2013, 752 redress complaints were shared with the Terrorist Screening Center, according to information provided by the government in a separate federal lawsuit out of Virginia. Formal complaints led the U.S. to remove 100 people from a broad terror watch list, the no-fly list and a separate list of people who require additional screening at airports, the government said. It described the 752 complaints as just 1 percent of the total redress requests, indicating it received about 75,000 that year.

The screening center considered only 227 requests in 2009. After a near-miss terror attack on Christmas Day that year, the government revamped its watch-listing system and lowered the standard for the no-fly list. The number of people banned from air travel surged from about 3,400 at the end of 2009 to about 48,000 late last summer, intelligence officials have told The Associated Press.

After someone complains under the process, the government conducts a review. Once complete, the applicant is given a redress number to use when booking air travel reservations. □



This photo shows Abe Mashal posing for a photo at his home in St. Charles, Ill. One of the plaintiffs in a Portland lawsuit, Mashal, was unable to print his boarding pass before a flight out of Chicago four years ago. A counter representative told him he was on the no-fly list and would not be allowed to board. The Obama administration is promising to change the way travelers can ask to be removed from its no-fly list of suspected terrorists banned from air travel.

(AP Photo/Sun-Times Media)

Hina Shamsi, an attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union.

Shamsi is among the attorneys who represent 13 plaintiffs who sued the federal government over the current policy, saying it

terror watch lists.

So far, the government is offering few details about upcoming changes. In a court filing earlier this month, it said it will "endeavor to increase transparency for certain individuals denied

representative told him he was on the no-fly list and would not be allowed to board. Mashal was surrounded by about 30 law enforcement officials, he said.

Mashal appealed the same day but six months

19-year-old in leaf-pile deaths avoids deportation

PORTLAND, Oregon (AP) — An immigration judge has dismissed the case against a 19-year-old Oregon woman who faced possible deportation to Mexico after she drove an SUV into a leaf pile, accidentally killing two young girls playing in it.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement said Tuesday that Cinthya Garcia-Cisneros was released from an immigration detention center Aug. 14. She was in removal proceedings and had been held at the facility since February. An ICE spokesman declined to say why the case was dropped, citing priva-

cy issues.

Earlier this year, Garcia-Cisneros was sentenced to three years' probation and 250 hours of community service. A jury found her guilty of two counts of felony hit-and-run.

Prosecutors say the Oct. 20 crash was an accident. But they say the young woman failed to come forward after learning she might have struck the children in the leaf pile, which was on the street. Police found her the following day.

Authorities said the two girls — later identified as sisters, 6-year-old Anna Dieter-Eckardt and 11-year-old Abigail Robinson — likely

were concealed by the leaves and not visible to Garcia-Cisneros.

Minutes after Garcia-Cisneros drove through the leaves on her way home, her brother returned to the scene and saw a man standing over the pile, screaming. The man spoke to him briefly. The boy went home and told his sister she might have hit two children.

Defense attorney Ethan Levi previously said Garcia-Cisneros was in a state of shock and denial after learning of the children and fixated on the possibility she wasn't the driver who struck them. At her sentencing

hearing, she told the girls' parents, Tom Robinson and Susan Dieter-Robinson, that she deeply regretted not going back. The parents offered her their forgiveness. Garcia-Cisneros was brought to the U.S. from Mexico as a 4-year-old. She has temporary permission to be in the country legally under the federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals program, meaning she has a work permit, a driver's license and a Social Security number.

Immigration attorney Courtney Carter, who represented the teen, was not immediately available for a comment. □



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US Financial Front:

American home construction jumps 15.7 percent in July



A builder works on the construction of new homes in Belmar, N.J. U.S. home construction rebounded in July, rising to the fastest pace in eight months and offering hope that housing has regained momentum after two months of declines.

(AP Photo/Mel Evans)

MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. home construction rebounded in July, rising to an eight-month high and offering hope that housing has regained momentum after two months of declines.

Construction increased 15.7 percent in July to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.09 million homes, the Commerce Department reported Tuesday. That was the fastest pace since November and followed declines of 4 percent in June and 7.4 percent in May.

Applications for building permits, considered a good sign of future activity, also showed strength in July, advancing 8.1 percent to an annual rate of 1.05 million, after declines of 3.1 percent in June and

5.1 percent in May.

The July rebound reflected strength in single-family home construction, which rose 8.3 percent, and in apartment construction, which was up 33 percent. The strength in July was led by a 44 percent rise in construction starts in the Northeast. Housing construction was up 29 percent in the South, recovering from a 26.8 percent plunge the month before blamed in part on heavy rains in that part of the country. Sales rose 18.6 percent in the West but fell 24.8 percent in the Midwest.

Economists noted that the July performance was much better than expected, and June was revised significantly higher, both good signs for the future.

Sal Guatieri, senior economist at BMO Capital Markets, said solid job growth

and a recent decline in mortgage rates were helping boost construction. But he said weak wage growth and tight lending standards were still depressing activity, especially among first-time buyers.

A report Monday indicated homebuilders are feeling more confident about their sales prospects, a hopeful sign that home construction and sales of newly built homes could pick up after stalling in recent months. The National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo builder sentiment index rose in August to 55, up two points from a revised 53 for July. That is the third straight monthly increase and put the index at its highest reading since January, when it was 56. Readings above 50 indicate more builders view sales conditions as good rather than poor.

Builders' views of current sales conditions for single-family homes, their outlook for sales over the next six months and traffic by prospective buyers all increased in August, brightening the outlook.

Sales of new homes are running behind last year's pace. They fell 8.1 percent in June to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 406,000.

A mix of rising home prices, higher mortgage rates and weak wage growth have made it more difficult for potential buyers to buy a newly built home. These factors have particularly depressed demand by first-time buyers.

But economists are still looking for a rebound, given the fact that the U.S. economy has been adding jobs at a healthy clip with gains topping 200,000 jobs for six straight months through July.

Housing, while still a long way from the boom of the last decade, has been recovering over the past two years. Though new homes represent only a fraction of the housing market, they have an outsized impact on the economy. Each home built creates an average of three jobs for a year and generates about \$90,000 in tax revenue, according to data from the Home Builders. □

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Times Square characters upset at 'hostile' police

VERENA DOBNIK
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Some costumed characters in Times Square ripped off their mammoth heads on Tuesday, showing their real faces to protest what they call a "hostile move" by police telling tourists they don't have to tip for photos. The giant Elmos, Mickey Mouses, Statues of Liberty and other beloved children's characters — mostly Spanish-speaking immigrants — held a news conference to proclaim their right to the meager survival cash.

"Si se puede!" they chanted in Spanish, meaning "Yes we can!"

One of their protest signs read: "We make the world smile," and another, "Let us work."

Earlier this month, the New York Police Department started distributing leaflets and posting signs in five languages telling visitors that tips are optional. As a result, tip intake has plummeted.

The crackdown followed a string of harrowing incidents in which some of the char-

acters assaulted tourists, including children. Others harassed people and groped women. The face-offs peaked last month when

most of them don't demand money; they only suggest they be tipped. More than 130 formed a group this week called NYC

the City Council.

On Tuesday, some took off their characters' masks to speak passionately about their right to earn a living.



Costumed characters hold signs prior to a press conference held by NYC Artists United for a Smile at Times Square in New York, Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2014. The artists called for the fair treatment and the right for performers to work for tips.

a Spider-Man demanding money punched a police officer telling a woman she was not obliged to pay.

The performers argue that

Artists United for a Smile to explore how the characters might regulate themselves instead of the licensing now being proposed in

"We need to be respected, not to be a police target!" said Jiovanna Melendez, a native of Peru who was dressed as Minnie Mouse. □

Peanut, almond butter recalled for salmonella risk

NEW YORK (AP) — Peanut and almond butters sold at Whole Foods, Trader Joe's and other grocers are being recalled because of possible salmonella contamination.

A unit of Hain Celestial Group Inc. said Tuesday that there have been reports of four illnesses that may be related to the nut butters. They were sold under the brand names Arrowhead Mills Peanut Butters, MaraNatha Almond Butters and Peanut Butters, and private label brands for Whole Foods, Trader Joe's, Kroger and Safeway. A total of 45 production lots are affected.

They were sold in Canada, the Dominican Republic, Hong Kong and the United Arab Emirates as well as the U.S.

The Lake Success, New York, company said it learned of the contamination risk after routine FDA testing.

The Food and Drug Administration said it did not know how many jars of nut butters were recalled. The company would not comment.

Typical symptoms of salmonella infection are nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and abdominal pain. These symptoms generally develop within one to three days of exposure to the bacterium and may last for up to a week. There have been several major salmonella outbreaks in recent years, including infected peanuts that sickened more than 700 people in 2008 and 2009 and Foster Farms chicken that is linked to a strain of salmonella that has made more than 500 people sick over the last year and a half. □

McDonald's to sell packaged coffee nationally

NEW YORK (AP) — McDonald's plans to start selling its packaged coffee at supermarkets nationally by early next year, a move intended to help raise the profile of the coffee sold at its U.S. restaurants.

The world's biggest hamburger chain has made a deal with Kraft Foods to manufacture and distribute the bags of McCafe ground and whole bean coffee, as well as single-cup pods that can be used in at-home coffee machines. Other chains, such

as Starbucks and Dunkin' Donuts, already sell branded packaged coffee at retailers.

McDonald's, based in Oak Brook, Illinois, has highlighted coffee as a key growth opportunity, with CEO Don Thompson saying it can be a way to get customers into its more than 14,000 U.S. restaurants.

The chain has redesigned its coffee cups to have a more appealing look that people would want to carry around. And it's trying to make a bigger push

into more profitable coffee drinks, such as flavored lattes, rather than just drip coffee.

Last year, for instance, it introduced a pumpkin spice latte. A similar drink at Starbucks has a loyal following. At an investor conference late last year, a McDonald's executive noted the chain's coffee sales have surged 70 percent since the introduction of McCafe specialty coffees in 2009. McDonald's Corp. and Kraft Foods had said last year they were testing the

packaged coffee in select markets.

Before Kraft split with Mondelez in late 2012, the packaged food maker had distributed Starbucks packaged coffee. But Starbucks broke off the relationship in 2010, saying Kraft failed to live up to its contract. Kraft challenged the early termination of the deal, and an arbitrator last year ruled that Starbucks had to pay \$4.76 billion to settle the dispute. That award goes to Mondelez International. □

Gaza cease-fire efforts collapse amid heavy fighting



Smoke and debris rise after an Israeli strike hit Gaza City in the northern Gaza Strip, Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2014. The Israeli military said it carried out a series of airstrikes Tuesday across the Gaza Strip in response to renewed rocket fire, a burst of violence that broke a temporary cease-fire and endangered negotiations in Egypt over ending the month long war between Israel and Hamas.

(AP Photo/Adel Hana)

**IBRAHIM BARZAK
M. DARAGHMEH
Associated Press**

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Egyptian attempts to broker an end to a month-long war between Israel and Hamas collapsed in heavy fighting Tuesday, with Palestinian militants firing dozens of rockets and Israel responding with airstrikes across the Gaza Strip. At least three Palestinians were killed.

The burst of violence, which erupted in the hours before a temporary truce was set to expire, left the Egyptian mediation efforts in tatters and raised the likelihood

of a new round of fighting in a war that has already claimed more than 2,000 lives, most of them Palestinians.

The fighting broke out when Gaza militants fired several rockets into Israel Tuesday afternoon. Israel quickly withdrew its delegation from the Cairo cease-fire talks and resumed its campaign of airstrikes, and fighting continued into the night.

Three people — two women and a 2-year-old girl — were killed in an airstrike on a house in Gaza City, Palestinian medical official Ashraf al-Kidra said.

The target of the airstrike wasn't immediately known. However, in Cairo, Mousa Abu Marzouk, a senior Hamas leader, said the dead included the wife and a child of Mohammed Deif, the Islamic militant group's elusive military chief, who has escaped numerous Israeli assassination attempts in the past. There was no immediate confirmation from Hamas leaders in Gaza.

Twenty-one people were wounded in a separate airstrike that hit a building that houses offices of Hamas' Al Aqsa TV station, al-Kidra said.

The fatalities were the first since a temporary truce was reached last Wednesday.

Israeli officials reported at

least 50 rockets were fired late Tuesday, setting off air raid sirens throughout southern Israel and as far away as the cities of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. There were no reports of injuries, though a piece of a rocket that was intercepted near Tel Aviv fell on a busy road. Israel's civil defense authority, the Home Front Command, ordered authorities to reopen public bomb shelters within 50 miles (80 kilometers) of Gaza.

In Cairo, Palestinian negotiators declared the cease-fire talks over, and said they would leave Egypt on Wednesday.

Azzam al-Ahmad, leader of the delegation, blamed Israel for the failure, but held out hope that the talks could be resumed.

"We told the Egyptians we are ready to return to the talks once they find the proper atmosphere," he said, adding that the Palestinians had submitted a final cease-fire proposal.

"It's clear the Israelis are not interested in the cease-fire. We did not hear from them. We were willing to, but we did not hear from them," he said.

Israeli government spokesman Mark Regev said the blame lay with Hamas. "When Hamas broke the cease-fire and fired rockets into Israel, they also violated the premise of the talks, which were based on an unconditional and total cease-fire," he said.

He would not say whether Israel would resume cease-fire talks. □



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Displaced Iraqis settle at a new camp outside the Bajid Kandala camp in Feeshkhabour town, Iraq, Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2014. Some 1.5 million people have been displaced by fighting in Iraq since the Islamic State's rapid advance began in June, and thousands more have died. The scale of the humanitarian crisis prompted the U.N. to declare its highest level of emergency last week. (AP Photo/Khalid Mohammed)

Tikrit:

Iraqi military clashes with militants

SINAN SALAHEDDIN

Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Skirmishes broke out Tuesday between Iraqi security forces and militants on the outskirts of Tikrit,

a local official and a resident said, a day after the Iraqi and Kurdish troops backed by U.S. airstrikes dislodged Islamic militants from a strategic dam in the country's north.

The United Nations refugee agency, meanwhile, said it is launching one of its largest aid pushes aimed at helping close to a half million people who have been forced to flee their homes by the violence in Iraq.

The clashes in Tikrit, some 130 kilometers (80 miles) north of Baghdad,

began on the militant-held city's southwestern outskirts when a military convoy

was travelling along the main highway that links Baghdad with the northern provinces, they said. The Iraqi military shelled militant positions inside and outside the city.

There were no immediate reports of casualties. The local official and resident both spoke on condition of anonymity, fearing for their safety.

Sunni extremists from the Islamic State group have occupied Tikrit and the northern city of Mosul since early June, as well as large parts of the country's north and west.

The militant onslaught has plunged Iraq into its worst crisis since the withdrawal of U.S. troops in 2011.

The group since has declared a self-styled caliphate in territory it controls in Iraq and neighboring Syria, imposing their own harsh in-

terpretation of Islamic law. The Iraqi military launched an operation in late June to try to wrest back control of Tikrit,

but that quickly stalled after making little headway. Sporadic clashes have been reported around the city and surrounding areas since then, but efforts by Iraqi government forces and allied Sunni tribal militiamen have failed to push out the militants.

Earlier this month, the tomb of former Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein just south of Tikrit was damaged in clashes between security forces and the radical group.

Iraqi army spokesman, Lt. Gen. Qassim al-Moussawi, said Tuesday that a "slow and gradual" push to retake areas around Tikrit is underway,

an effort he described as "biting back the land. □"

Top Saudi cleric: Islamic State is enemy of Islam

Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Saudi Arabia's top cleric said Tuesday that extremism and the ideologies of groups like the Islamic State and al-Qaida are Islam's No. 1 enemy and that Muslims have been their first victims.

Grand Mufti Sheik Abdul-Aziz Al-Sheik also said in his public statement that terrorism has no place in Islam, and that the danger of extremists lies in their use of Islamic slogans to justify their actions that divide people.

"These foreign groups do not belong to Islam and Muslims adhering to it," he said, adding that unity around the word and rank of Saudi Arabia's king and crown prince is necessary to avoid the type of chaos seen elsewhere in the region. King Abdullah has been pressing clerics to publicly condemn Islamic extremist groups since the government made it illegal for citizens to fight in conflicts abroad. Clerics who do not condemn terrorism in traditional Friday sermons could face penalties, such as having their licenses to preach revoked. Local media have reported that the Saudi Interior Ministry may require clerics to pass a security screening before they can preach, and that around 3,500 clerics in Saudi Arabia have been dismissed since 2003 for their sermons.

The Islamic State group's advances in Iraq and Syria have heightened security concerns in neighboring countries like Saudi Arabia. They have also prompted a number of articles and dis-

cussions in the local press about how to confront the spread of "Takfiri" ideology, which shuns anyone who does not adhere to a stringent interpretation of Islam. Saudi Arabia follows a puritanical interpretation of Islam known as Wahhabism. A decade ago, al-Qaida militants launched a string of attacks in the kingdom aimed at toppling the monarchy. A fierce crackdown by Saudi Arabia's security services forced many militants to flee to neighboring Yemen, which now has one of the world's most active al-Qaida branches.

Over the past two days, a court in the capital, Riyadh, has sentenced 31 people for their involvement in those attacks, sentencing three to death and the rest to prison. All will be allowed to appeal the verdict. On Tuesday, the court sentenced two men to death and 15 others to prison on various charges of murder, firing at security forces and plotting to assassinate top officials. They were also found guilty of assaults on residential compounds where foreigners live in Riyadh and the Eastern Province, the official Saudi Press Agency reported. A day earlier, the court sentenced one man to death and 13 others to prison for their role in killing a foreigner, attacking government buildings and residential compounds and planning an assault on the U.S. and British embassies during the height of those attacks, the official Saudi Press Agency reported. □



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Ukrainian forces press attacks on rebel-held areas

PETER LEONARD
Associated Press

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP)

— Government troops pressed attacks Tuesday in the two largest cities held by pro-Russian rebels in eastern Ukraine, while Kiev also pursued diplomatic efforts to resolve the conflict that has killed more than 2,000 and displaced another 300,000.

Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko prepared to host German Chancellor Angela Merkel this weekend before heading to a meeting next week with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

The next two weeks "will be crucial for finding the way to move from war to peace," said Valery Chaly, the deputy head of Poroshenko's administration. He said in a televised briefing that Kiev sees "clear diplomatic roadmap" ahead and expressed hope that a new approach could be found to end the war.

Poroshenko's efforts to quell the insurgency have been focused on encircling Donetsk, the largest rebel-controlled city and a regional capital. Fighting began in mid-April after Russia annexed Crimea, a peninsula on the Black Sea, while Kiev's forces have recaptured significant amounts of territory from the separatists.

Moscow has denied allegations by Kiev and the West that it has fomented the rebellion in the Russian-speaking parts of eastern Ukraine. It says the Ukrainian government has discriminated against residents of the region who seek closer ties to Russia.

In fighting Tuesday, one soldier was killed and four were wounded when a pro-Kiev battalion of vol-

unteers came under mortar fire before entering the town of Ilovaysk, 18 kilometers (11 miles) east of Donetsk, Ukrainian officials said.

Among the wounded in Ilovaysk was the commander of the Donbass battalion, Semyon Semenchenko, who said his forces had destroyed three rebel checkpoints and four firing positions and that fighting continued. Semenchenko, who appears in public in his trademark balaclava, has cult hero status in Ukraine for his battlefield exploits.

Ukrainian troops also captured a neighborhood in the regional capital of Luhansk, battling rebels on the city's streets, National Security Council spokesman Andriy Lysenko said.

The fighting has killed at least 2,086 people as of Aug. 10, and it has forced nearly 344,000 to flee their homes, according to the United Nations. Living conditions in rebel-held cities had deteriorated rapidly in recent weeks.

With the rebels losing more and more ground, the Kremlin announced a summit will be held in Minsk, Belarus, on Aug. 26 that would also include top officials from Ukraine, the European Commission and the Customs Union bloc, which is made up of Russia, Kazakhstan, and Belarus.

Putin and Poroshenko have not met since early June. Poroshenko, who confirmed the meeting, said "stabilizing the situation" in eastern Ukraine would be a key topic of discussion. Putin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said, however, that the Russian leader wanted to talk about the deteriorating humanitarian situation there.

But first, Poroshenko will meet Saturday in Kiev with

Merkel. Germany, Europe's largest economy with close business ties with Moscow, has played a leading role in trying to defuse the crisis. The conflict has recently taken a huge toll on Lu-

hansk, a city near the Russian border that has been left without electricity, running water or phone service for 17 days.

Central Luhansk came under fierce shelling over-

night, killing and wounding civilians, the city administration said, without giving specific casualty figures.

Residents were reported to be standing in lines to buy bread. □



A Russian military truck carries a MSTA-S self-propelled howitzer about 10 kilometers from the Russia-Ukrainian border control point at town Donetsk, Rostov-on-Don region, Russia, Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2014. Ukrainian government troops were fighting pro-Russian rebels in the streets of Luhansk on Tuesday and captured most of a town near the eastern city of Donetsk, tightening the noose around that key rebel-held stronghold, Ukrainian officials said.

(AP Photo/Pavel Golovkin)

Liberia president declares Ebola curfew

JONATHAN LAYLEH
Associated Press

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP)

— Liberia's president declared a curfew and ordered security forces to quarantine a slum home to at least 50,000 people late Tuesday as the West African country battled to stop the spread of Ebola in the capital.

The measures came as authorities said that three health workers in the country who received an experimental drug for the disease are showing signs of recovery, though medical experts caution it is not certain if the drug is effective. At least 1,229 people have

died of Ebola in Guinea, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Nigeria in the current outbreak, and more than 2,240 have been sickened, according to the World Health Organization. The fastest rising number of cases has been reported in Liberia, with at least 466 dead. Authorities here have struggled to treat and isolate the sick, in part because of widespread fear that treatment centers are places where people go to die. Many sick people have hidden in their homes, relatives have sometimes taken their loved ones away from health centers, and mobs have occasionally

attacked health workers. Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf announced late Tuesday that a curfew is going into place from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m.

Security forces also will be ensuring no one goes in or out of West Point, a slum in the capital where angry residents attacked an Ebola observation center over the weekend. "We have been unable to control the spread due to continued denials, cultural burying practices, disregard for the advice of health workers and disrespect for the warnings by the government," she said. □



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A Castro breaks tradition with 'no' vote in Cuba

ANDREA RODRIGUEZ

Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Yet another revolutionary tradition has been broken in Cuba: A lawmaker voted "no" in parliament. And it wasn't just any lawmaker.

Mariela Castro, the daughter of President Raul Castro and niece of Fidel Castro, gave the thumbs-down to a workers' rights bill that she felt didn't go far enough to prevent discrimination against people with HIV or with unconventional gender identities.

None of the experts contacted by The Associated Press could recall another "no" vote in the 612-seat National Assembly, which meets briefly twice a year and approves laws by unanimous show of hands. "This is the first time, without a doubt," said Carlos Alzugaray, a historian and former Cuban diplomat.

He said even measures that were widely criticized in grass-roots public meetings, such as a law raising the retirement age, had passed unanimously in the Assembly.

Few in Cuba were even aware of the Dec. 20 vote until after the measure was enacted into law this summer, at which point gay

activists publicized the vote by Castro, who is the island's most prominent advocate for gay rights.

Arturo Lopez-Levy, a Cuban analyst who lectures at the University of Denver, suggested it might "open

"There have been advances in the way things are discussed, above all the way things are discussed at the grass-roots level, in workplaces, unions and party groupings," she said in an interview posted

representatives within the Assembly."

Others are skeptical it will set a precedent.

"I would say that this is more a sign of what Mariela can get away with than a sign of what your every-

rights, Castro has often taken stands that challenge the social status quo, while firmly supporting the Communist government.

The new labor code bans workplace discrimination based on gender, race and sexual orientation. But it has no mention of HIV status or gender identity.

"I could not vote in favor without the certainty that the labor rights of people with different gender identity would be explicitly recognized," Castro said in the blog interview.

Raul Castro himself has been slowly shaking up Cuba's system by allowing some limited private-sector activity and scrapping a much-loathed exit visa requirement. He's made it clear, though, that the Communist Party will continue to be the only one permitted.

The vast majority of Assembly members keep their regular jobs and are not professional lawmakers. Laws are generally drafted by a handful of legislators and discussed with Cubans before being presented to parliament.

There was no response to requests for an interview with Mariela Castro, who heads Cuba's National Center for Sex Education, an entity under the umbrella of the Health Ministry.

She has spoken in the past about wanting to legalize same-sex unions, though concrete legislation to that effect has not materialized.

That LGBT rights is even a matter of debate is a sign that much has changed since the 1960s and '70s, when gay islanders were routinely harassed and sent to labor camps along with others considered socially suspect. □



Mariela Castro, lawmaker and director of the Cuban National Center for Sex Education smiles in Havana, Cuba. Castro, the daughter of President Raul Castro and niece of Fidel Castro, broke with tradition and voted "no" in parliament to a workers' rights bill that she felt didn't go far enough to prevent discrimination against people with HIV or with unconventional gender identities.

(AP Photo/Franklin Reyes)

doors for other important initiatives."

Mariela Castro herself seemed to hint there could be more debate in the assembly.

in late July on the blog of Francisco Rodriguez, a pro-government gay rights activist. "I think we still need to perfect the democratic participation of the rep-

day parliamentarian can get away with," said Ted Henken, a professor of Latin American studies at Baruch College in New York. In her crusade for gay

US court grants new hearing for Buju Banton

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)

— A lawyer for convicted Jamaican reggae star Buju Banton said Tuesday that a U.S. federal appellate court agreed to a new hearing on his latest appeal.

The Grammy-winning singer is serving a 10-year sentence for convictions on cocaine conspiracy and trafficking charges stem-

ming from a 2009 arrest that followed a sting operation. He was convicted in 2011 after his first trial in 2010 ended with jurors deadlocked. In an email, attorney Charles Ogletree said the 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta had agreed to hear oral arguments on the case.

"Mr. Buju Banton was

pleased to learn that the 11th Circuit granted a new hearing of his appeal. We too are looking forward to the appellate argument," said Ogletree, a Harvard University law professor who took over Banton's case in February. In 2012, a panel of the appellate court upheld Banton's convictions. His former defense lawyer

had argued that a government informant improperly entrapped the singer.

It's not clear when the hearing will take place.

The husky-voiced Rastafarian singer, whose real name is Mark Myrie, has long been a prominent figure with the reggae-rap hybrid of dancehall reggae music and traditional reggae. □



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joy the music at Casibari Grill when you stop by on a Kukoo Kunuku tour the next time you are in Aruba. More information and reviews of Kukoo Kunuku can be found on TripAdvisor- it comes highly recommended from travelers all around the world! □

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ORANJESTAD – AUG– During summertime many choose to enjoy a well deserved vacation abroad. Renaissance Aruba Resort

& Casino recently had the pleasure to receive the visit from Mr. Akbar Gbajabiamila who was visiting Aruba for a relaxing vacation. Akbar Gbajabiamila is known for being the co-host of 'American Ninja' which is aired on international television channel NBC and announcer of NFL Fantasy Live on NFL NETWORK. During his vacation Akbar enjoyed all the facilities that Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino has to offer. The Renaissance Private Island had Akbar highly impressed. Besides admiring the beauty and enjoy the relaxed ambience he also had some quality time with the flamingos. While Akbar was enjoying the sun in Aruba he

also participated in the ASL ice bucket challenge at the Renaissance Marina Adult Pool. For those who do not know the ALS ice bucket challenge is a massive fundraising challenge taking place on social media to benefit the cure for the so called Lou Gehrig's Disease. You can see Akbar completing his ice bucket challenge via: (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SejEGiX4dUM>) Once again Renaissance Aruba Resort confirmed that it has all the perfect ingredients for a relaxing, luxurious and well deserved vacation. In the pictures you see Akbar Gbajabiamila enjoying his stay at the Renaissance Aruba Resort & Casino. □



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The Ritz-Carlton conducted extensive research with global affluent consumers, and studied user preferences since the initial launch of the App in 2012 to ensure the next phase of mobile enhances global travel. Digital services will provide consumers with touch points to truly enrich their journey from the time of trip planning through to their return.

The Ritz-Carlton sees the opportunity to connect more closely with guests through advanced mobile functionality and also at an emotional level, as it continues to create content to better serve a global

traveler today, providing options for guests to communicate based on their preferences.

On October 1 the App is scheduled to launch a new shareable Travel Poster



feature, where guests will be able to curate their own images with special filters, titles and stamps to create retro-style travel posters to capture their memories. They will then be able to share their posters across social media channels, or save them to a personal on-device camera roll, enabling them to store the travel memory forever.

"The Ritz-Carlton is known for one-to-one personalized service, and the development of our App enables

us to deliver that service efficiently, and also dedicate additional time to anticipate guest needs that are often unexpressed and attend to the all-important details," shared Ed French, Chief Sales and Marketing Officer for The Ritz-Carlton. "We also placed great importance on extending our travel knowledge and expertise to users to ensure we are launching an App they will find worth keeping on their device beyond a stay at one of our hotels. An abundance of travel tips and recommendations are also available for each destination where we have a hotel."

Quick View of The Ritz-Carlton App Enhancements: Check-In, Check-Out; Real-Time Service Requests; Folio Review; Exclusive local content and offers at all hotels; Mobile food and beverage ordering at select hotels; Shareable Travel Posters (launching October 1).

The Ritz-Carlton App is available to all; the new mobile guest services are available to The Ritz-Carlton Rewards and Marriott Rewards members which are loyalty programs with complimentary membership.

The App enhancements are live today in the Americas, and will be added to all remaining global continents throughout the year, beginning with the Middle East at the end of September.



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"We are already piloting the next phase of App service features at The Ritz-Carlton, Naples, with poolside food and beverage orders available at the Florida resort. Now, instead of calling over a Ritz-Carlton Lady or Gentleman to take your order, you can simply

tap in your request, and we'll start making your drink and head your way. Reducing three trips between you and the bar to execute that order to a single trip both gets your order to you faster, and leaves us more time to engage and focus on your total experience" added French. □

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PALM BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple whom are loyal and

friendly Visitors of Aruba, as Ambassadors of Goodwill, at the Playa Linda Beach Resort. The symbolic honorary title is presented in



the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20-or-more consecutive years. The honorees were Mr. George and Mrs. Marilyn

Griveas. George and Marilyn love Aruba very much because of the people, the climate, beaches, restaurants, and Aruba feels like a second home and the people are like a fam-

ily to them. The certificates were presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with Ms. Yvette Tromp representing the Playa Linda Beach Resort. □

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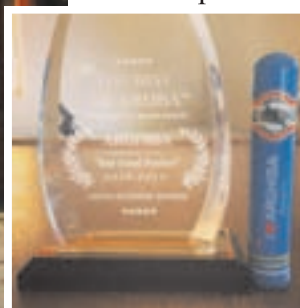


ORANJESTAD- Benjamin Petrocchi, a true native Aruban started the newest export product of Aruba, locally produced hand rolled cigars called "Aruhiba". These cigars are produced and cultivated in Aruba. Petrocchi always had a interest in the cigar business and has also sold Premium Cuban Cigars, and now he is growing his own tobacco crops. After many attempts and trips to Santo Domingo and Cuba, he started his own production and cultivation of Aruhiba Cigars in Aruba. The whole process took him 10 years to perfect. Petrocchi dedication to the cigars is important for the moulding and process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. Their handmade cigar box is specially designed with their "Aruhiba" logo. Petrocchi considers Aruhiba as a promotion for Aruba through its fine cigars. The company sells Aruhiba to the international markets as well. Visit their retail store located in front of the Historic Dutch Windmill in front of the Westin Resort, with any purchase of \$20 and up you receive a free "Aruhiba" cigar or ask for their gift box of 5 cigars get 1 FREE for only \$37. They open from Monday to Saturday from 9 am till 6:30 pm and on Sundays from 10 am to 4 pm. Aruhiba cigars are now available at the gift stores in your resort and at well-known cigar stores. For their complete selection and attractive by the box prices visit their retail store. Tours are also



Owner Benjamin Petrocchi

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Roger Federer, from Switzerland, celebrates after defeating David Ferrer, from Spain, 6-3, 1-6, 6-2, in a final match at the Western and Southern Open tennis tournament, Sunday, Aug. 17, 2014, in Mason, Ohio.

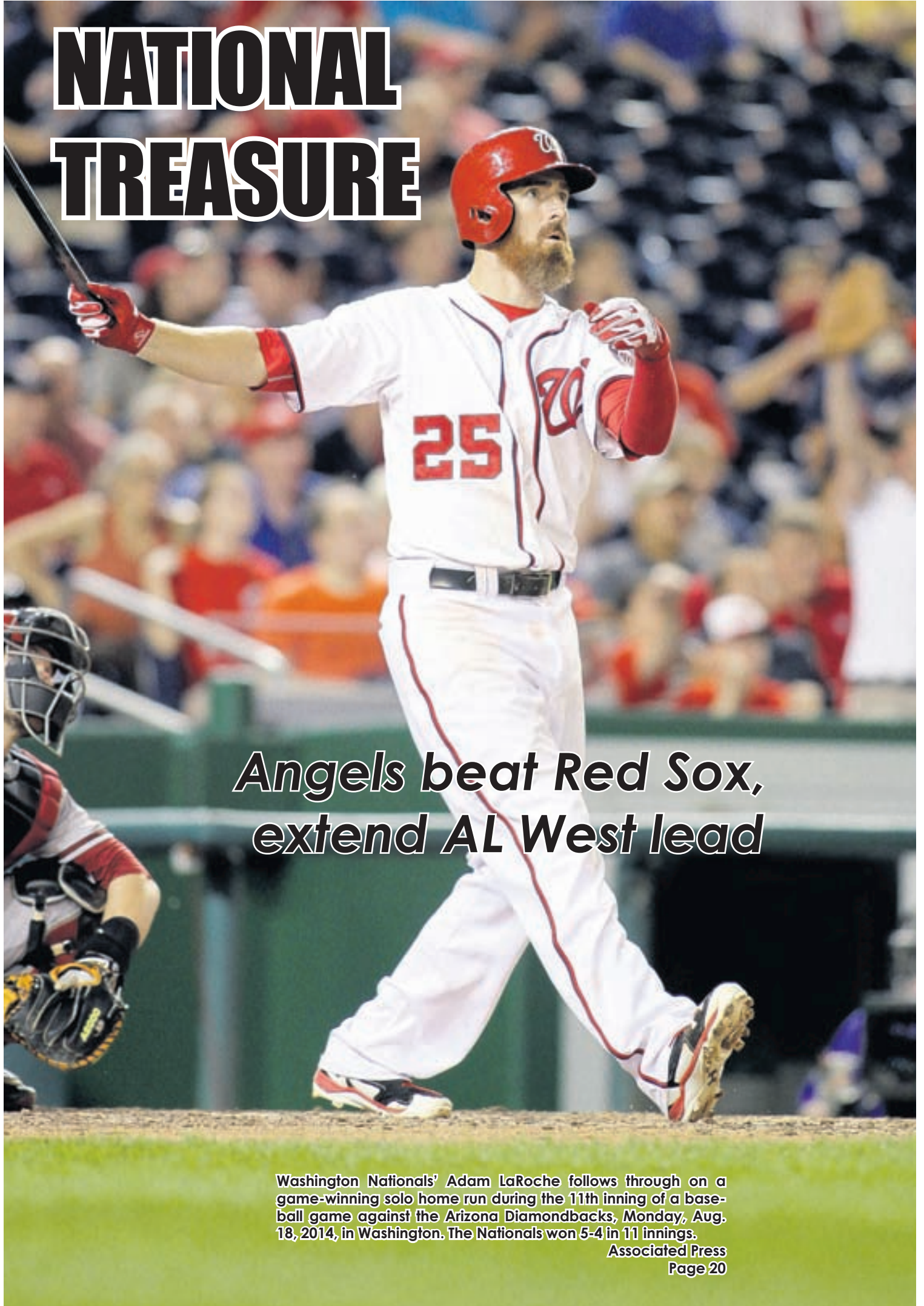
Associated Press

Past champs Djokovic, Federer seeded 1-2

NEW YORK (AP) — Top-ranked Novak Djokovic is seeded No. 1 for the U.S. Open, and five-time champion Roger Federer is No. 2, meaning they could meet only in the final. Djokovic beat Federer for the title at Wimbledon last month. The U.S. Tennis Association followed this week's ATP rankings in announcing the seedings Tuesday. Federer moved up one spot from his No. 3 ranking because 2013 champion Rafael Nadal withdrew from the year's last Grand Slam tournament with an injured right wrist. The 33-year-old Federer is seeded at the U.S. Open for the 14th consecutive year, tied with Ivan Lendl for the longest streak, trailing only Jimmy Connors' record of 18.

Continued on Next Page

NATIONAL TREASURE



Angels beat Red Sox, extend AL West lead

Washington Nationals' Adam LaRoche follows through on a game-winning solo home run during the 11th inning of a baseball game against the Arizona Diamondbacks, Monday, Aug. 18, 2014, in Washington. The Nationals won 5-4 in 11 innings.

Associated Press
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Robredo loses at Winston-Salem

BILL KISER

Associated Press

WINSTON-SALEM, North Carolina (AP) —

France's Nicolas Mahut caused an upset at the Winston-Salem Open on Tuesday with a 6-1, 7-6 (7-0) victory over third-seeded Tommy Robredo in the second round. Robredo had his serve broken three times in the first set by the 104th-ranked Mahut, who then took four mini-breaks from Robredo in winning the second-set tiebreaker.

"I knew he was in for a tough week after Cincinnati," Mahut said of Robredo, who had beaten top-ranked Novak Djokovic in advancing to the quarter-finals of last week's West-

ern and Southern Open. "I knew if I had a good start, it would be difficult for him. The second set was tougher, but it was still a good finish. I had to play more aggressive in the tiebreak, but it was still good."

There were also surprise defeats for fourth-seeded Leonardo Mayer of Argentina, who was beaten 6-3, 6-1 by Belgian qualifier David Goffin, and for sixth-seeded Joao Sousa of Portugal, who lost 6-1, 3-6, 7-6 (7-5) to Poland's Jerzy Janowicz in the final tune-up event for next week's U.S. Open.

Goffin, who won his first ATP Tour event last month in Kitzbuhel, Austria, extended his winning streak to 24 matches. That includes ATP

Challenger Tour event wins in the Netherlands, Poland and Finland.

In an earlier match, second-seeded Kevin Anderson of South Africa had to overcome a shaky second set to beat France's Adrian Mannarino 6-3, 2-6, 6-4.

The 6-foot-8 Anderson served 16 aces and almost as many service winners. Mannarino used his ground game to force Anderson into 24 errors in the second set, breaking his serve twice en route to taking the set and evening the match at 1-all. But Anderson got a key service break in the seventh game of the third set, and closed out the match with two aces and a service winner in the deciding game. □



Tommy Robredo, from Spain, volleys against David Ferrer, from Spain, during a match at the Western & Southern Open tennis tournament, Friday, Aug. 15, 2014, in Mason, Ohio.

Associated Press



Novak Djokovic, from Serbia, returns a serve against Tommy Robredo, from Spain, during a match at the Western & Southern Open tennis tournament, Thursday, Aug. 14, 2014, in Mason, Ohio.

Associated Press

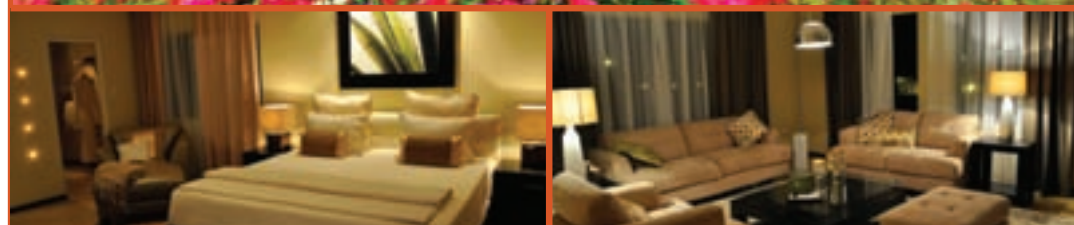
Continued from Page 17

Federer won the hard-court tournament every year from 2004-08, part of his record 17 Grand Slam titles.

Djokovic has played in the last four finals at Flushing Meadows, winning the title in 2011. He lost to Nadal in 2010 and last year, and to Andy Murray in 2012.

Murray is seeded eighth this year. Australian Open champion Stan Wawrinka is No. 3, followed by David Ferrer, Milos Raonic, Tomas Berdych and Grigor Dimitrov.

The women's seedings will be announced Wednesday, and the draw is Thursday. The tournament starts Monday. □



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AL Capsules

Angels stay hot, extend AL West lead

The Associated Press

ANGELS 4, RED SOX 2

BOSTON (AP) — Mike Trout and Albert Pujols hit consecutive RBI doubles as the Angels extended their AL West lead with a victory over the Red Sox.

It was the fifth win in six games for the Angels, who moved a half-game ahead of idle Oakland.

David Ortiz reached base four times with a double, single and two walks for the Red Sox, who have lost three of four after winning four straight.

Angels starter C.J. Wilson (10-8) labored through 5 1-3 innings, giving up one run and five hits with five walks and five strikeouts.

Kevin Jepsen worked the ninth for his first save since Sept. 16, 2012. He struck out Ortiz with two on and none out before allowing a run.

Brandon Workman (1-7) lost his sixth straight start, giving up two runs and six hits in seven innings.

PHILLIES 4, MARINERS 1

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Jerome Williams took a three-hitter into the eighth inning and Andres Blanco hit his first homer in three years as the Phillies beat the Mariners.

Making his second start since joining the Phillies, Williams (1-0) allowed one run and three hits in seven-plus innings.

Mariners rookie lefty Roenis Elias (9-10) gave up one run and three hits in four innings. He constantly pitched out of jams because he walked six and hit one batter with a pitch.

Blanco connected for a three-run shot off reliever Dominic Leone in the fifth to give the Phillies a 4-0 lead. It was his first home run since July 1, 2011, for Texas against Flor-



Los Angeles Angels' Albert Pujols is tagged out at home by Boston Red Sox catcher Christian Vazquez while trying to score during the eighth inning of a baseball game at Fenway Park in Boston, Monday, Aug. 18, 2014. Pujols was originally called safe, but the call was overturned by video replay review.

Associated Press

ida.

ROYALS 6, TWINS 4

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Erik Kratz homered twice after replacing an ailing Salvador Perez, and Jason Vargas pitched seven strong innings to lead the first-place Royals to a victory over the Twins.

Vargas (10-5) allowed one run on four this and struck out three, but had his scoreless innings streak snapped at 17 when Oswaldo Arcia hit a solo homer in the seventh. Perez had two hits and two RBIs before leaving in the seventh because of discomfort in his right knee, helping the Royals win for the 21st time in 26 games.

Kansas City extended its lead over the idle Detroit Tigers in the AL Central to two games.

Trevor May (0-2) gave up three runs on seven hits and walked four in 4 2-3 innings for the Twins.

ORIOLES 8, WHITE SOX 2

CHICAGO (AP) — Nick Markakis hit a two-run homer and prevented one with a leaping catch in right field, and Nelson Cruz and J.J. Hardy each added a solo shot to power the Orioles past the White Sox.

Markakis was 3 for 5 with two RBIs and two runs, helping the Orioles increase their AL East lead to 7 1/2 games over the idle New York

Yankees.

Cruz hit his 32nd homer, passing White Sox rookie Jose Abreu for the American League lead. Cruz is tied with Mike Stanton of the Miami Marlins for most in the majors. Bud Norris (11-7) allowed two runs and three hits in seven innings to win his third straight start.

Chicago ace Chris Sale (10-3) yielded three runs and eight hits in six innings. He has dropped two straight decisions.

In other games it was Philadelphia 4, Seattle 1; L.A. Angels 4, Boston 2; Baltimore 8, Chicago White Sox 2; and Kansas City 6, Minnesota 4. □



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NL Capsules

Nats push run to 7 on LaRoche HR in the 11th

WASHINGTON (AP) — Adam LaRoche hit a game-winning solo home run with two outs in the 11th inning to help the Washington Nationals beat the Arizona Diamondbacks 5-4 Monday night for their seventh straight win.

It was the third walk-off win in as many days for NL-East leading Washington.

LaRoche sent a 3-1 pitch from Will Harris (0-3) off the wall in the back of the Nationals bullpen and was mobbed by his teammates at home plate.

Winning pitcher Craig Stammen (3-4) pitched out of a bases-loaded, no outs jam in the top of the inning. Arizona tied it 4-4 when David Peralta led off the ninth with a solo homer off Tyler Clippard.

Washington trailed 3-2 when Denard Span doubled with one-out in the eighth against Brad Ziegler and Anthony Rendon followed with a triple to tie it.

BRAVES 7, PIRATES 3
PITTSBURGH (AP) — Jason Heyward and Andrelton Simmons homered to begin a six-run first inning as the Braves beat the sliding Pirates for their fourth consecutive victory.

The early outburst was enough for Ervin Santana, who allowed three solo homers among nine hits in 5 1-3 innings. Santana (13-6) improved to 8-1 over his past 10 starts.

Pittsburgh has lost six in a row. Starling Marte went deep twice, and Neil Walker added a homer that became the first to reach the Allegheny River beyond right field at PNC Park this season.

CUBS 4, METS 1



Washington Nationals' Adam LaRoche follows through on a game-winning solo home run during the 11th inning of a baseball game against the Arizona Diamondbacks, Monday, Aug. 18, 2014, in Washington. The Nationals won 5-4 in 11 innings.

NEW YORK (AP) — Kyle Hendricks and two relievers held New York to four or fewer hits for the fifth straight game and Anthony Rizzo and Javier Baez hit long homers as the Cubs

rallied for a victory over the Mets. Hendricks (5-1) gave up just three hits in seven innings, allowing only Lucas Duda's home run in the fourth. The rookie right-hander won his

fourth straight start — yielding four earned runs over 29 1-3 innings.

Neil Ramirez struck out two in a perfect eighth and Hector Rondon allowed a leadoff double but finished

the four-hitter for his 18th save.

The Cubs came back once Carlos Torres, making a spot start for Bartolo Colon, was done after five innings. **CARDINALS 6, REDS 5, 10 innings**

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Jhonny Peralta's 10th-inning single, his third hit of the game, drove in the winning run to give the Cardinals a victory over the Reds.

Jay Bruce homered, doubled and knocked in four runs for the Reds, giving him nine RBIs in four games. Brandon Phillips returned from left thumb surgery wearing a brace and was 0 for 4 with a walk.

Logan Ondrusek (3-3) entered with one out in the 10th and gave up consecutive singles to Matt Holliday, Matt Adams and Peralta. Ondrusek (strained right shoulder) was activated from the disabled list earlier in the day.

Peralta's RBI single in the first was just his second in 32 at-bats against the Reds this season. He also doubled and scored the tying run on A.J. Pierzynski's hit off Jumbo Diaz in the eighth.

In other Chicago Cubs 4, N.Y. Mets 1; Washington 5, Arizona 4, 11 innings; Atlanta 7, Pittsburgh 3;

Philadelphia 4, Seattle 1; and St. Louis 6, Cincinnati 5, 10 innings.



Associated Press

Ex-NFL lineman tops bill for Pyongyang fight night

ERIC TALMADGE
Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — Former NFL player Bob “The Beast” Sapp isn’t exactly a household name back home in the United States. But he’s big in Japan. Very big. And soon he hopes to be living large — for a week, anyway — in North Korea. Shades of Dennis Rodman, anyone? Sapp, a 6-foot-5, 350-pound tank of a man who played briefly as a lineman with the Chicago Bears and Minnesota Vikings before becoming one of Japan’s best-known mixed martial arts personalities, will be topping the bill at a martial arts extravaganza in Pyongyang later this month.

The two-day event is being staged by a Japanese pro-wrestler-turned-politician in an oddball attempt at sports diplomacy just as relations between North Korea and Japan are beginning to thaw.

“This is the No. 1 unusual and a little bit crazy thing (I’ve ever done),” Sapp said of his upcoming trip. “I’ve done everything from the NFL, pro wrestling, movies, I made the cover of Time magazine, done all types of commercials and now I’m going to North Ko-



In this Friday, Aug. 15, 2014 photo, former NFL player Bob “The Beast” Sapp speaks during an interview in Tokyo.

Associated Press

rea. You name it, I’ve done it.”

About 20 wrestlers and martial artists from around the world are expected to attend. Organizers say the event — dubbed, rather blandly, the International Pro-Wrestling Festival in Pyongyang — will be broadcast over the Internet, aired on Japanese network television and also shown on North Korean state-run TV.

The exhibition will be the biggest sports show with a marquee American since Rodman and a team of

other ex-NBA players took to a Pyongyang basketball court in January. Rodman called that event “historic,” but was panned by members of the U.S. Congress, the NBA and human rights groups who said he had become a public relations tool for North Korea’s government.

Sapp, who divides his time between Japan and his adopted hometown of Seattle, told The Associated Press he was familiar with the Rodman debacle but says he will steer as far away from controversy and poli-

only members of Japan’s parliament who supports — and actively participates in — exchanges of any kind with North Korea. Inoki, who has visited North Korea nearly 30 times, was suspended by parliament for a month after making an unauthorized trip to the North last year.

The square-jawed, 6-foot-3 Inoki, serving his third term in Japan’s parliament, is probably best remembered elsewhere for fighting Muhammad Ali in Tokyo in 1976. But in 1995, he fought American Ric Flair in the “Collision in Korea,” a two-day event held in Pyongyang’s huge May Day Stadium that drew a



In this Monday, Aug. 11, 2014 photo, Japanese pro-wrestler-turned-politician Kanji “Antonio” Inoki speaks during an interview at his office of Parliament in Tokyo.

Associated Press

Ex-Giants RB David Wilson to train in triple jump

NEW YORK (AP) — Two weeks after ending his NFL career due to a neck injury, former New York Giants running back David Wilson is turning to track and field. The 23-year-old Wilson, who competed in the triple jump during high school and at Virginia Tech, intends to train in the event with an eye on making the United States team for the 2016 Rio Olympics. Speaking to reporters Monday at Citi Field, where he addressed school children as part of the “Citi Kids” program, Wilson said he has already been working out and will start training with his former track coach on campus at Virginia Tech. Wilson was drafted by the Giants in the first round,



In this Thursday, May 29, 2014 file photo, New York Giants running back David Wilson talks to the media during an NFL football organized team activity in East Rutherford, N.J.

Associated Press

32nd overall, out of Virginia Tech in 2012. As a rookie, he rushed for 358 yards and scored four touchdowns

while making his mark as a kick returner. Wilson led the NFL with 1,533 yards in kick-off returns, a team record.

tics as he can. It’s not clear if North Korean leader Kim Jong Un — whom Rodman serenaded with the birthday song — will attend the event.

“I have no idea what any of that stuff is, and for me, it’s quite simple,” Sapp said in an interview. “I am there to bring entertainment.”

He will also be bringing cookies, which he plans to hand out to children — in contrast, he notes, to Rodman, who showed up in Pyongyang with crates full of his personal brand of vodka.

There is a strong political undertone to the event, however.

It’s all the brainchild of Kanji “Antonio” Inoki, a savvy showman and charismatically eccentric Japanese politician who is one of the

reported 380,000 spectators. It was the biggest pay-per-view event in pro-wrestling history. Ali was among the guest attendees.

Inoki said he had originally hoped to get the same stadium for the upcoming show, but it is under renovation and the venue will instead be a 15,000-seat indoor arena.

Inoki’s connection to North Korea dates back to his mentor, a pro-wrestler named Rikidozan who was possibly the best-known sports figure in postwar Japan. Rikidozan was Korean and his name and exploits in the ring are still known in North Korea today.

Though he has made quite a stir in the Japanese media, the general response to his plans has been subdued.

Breathing Hard

By: Dr Carlos Viana

A sudden difficulty in breathing with a tight feeling in the chest including coughing was described by the Greeks as "azein." This is the word that asthma comes from. These symptoms are considered a disease of the respiratory system and are sometimes caused by allergies.

There are two types of asthma, extrinsic and intrinsic. Extrinsic asthma is caused by allergies that can affect the lungs, skin, and mucous membranes. Intrinsic asthma does not stimulate the body's immune system and is a reaction to such things as cold air, exercise, infection, chronic inflammation, emotional upsets, and irritating smells.

About 34 million North Americans have been diagnosed with asthma, and the number is expected to rise dramatically. According to the Center for Disease Control in the United States asthma is "a more severe disease than before, despite modern drug treatments; from 1982-1992, the death rate from asthma in the United States increased by 35%." These statistics are flattering to neither the pharmaceutical giants nor conventional doctors.

Children younger than ten suffer the most from asthma. Medical researchers have shown that children under age 3 who receive the nasal flu vaccine had a higher risk of developing asthma within weeks of receiving the vaccine. Researchers in Finland have found that children delivered through modern medical childbirth interventions appear to be at greater risk for developing childhood asthma than

children delivered naturally. Babies delivered by Cesarean Section have a 38% increased risk of developing asthma, Vacuum Extraction a 32% increase, and Forceps Delivery have a 114% increase.

Professionally, I encourage all healthy, expectant mothers to use a midwife and promote all women who are able, to breast-feed as long as possible. This is the single most important thing a mother can do for her baby. Introducing milk other than breast milk to infants younger than 4 months old increases the risk of asthma and a predisposition to certain allergies. Babies given bottle milk before their fourth month are 25% more likely to be diagnosed with allergies than are children who received only breast milk during their early months. The length of exclusive breastfeeding is less important, though longer breastfeeding has been associated with less asthma and allergy.

Childhood respiratory problems, including asthma, may be linked to inhaling the mixture of chemicals emitted from disposable diapers. Studies show that chemical emissions of some disposable diapers had immediate health effects in animals. Cotton dippers now come in convenient to clean and use styles, so there is no excuse not to go natural. Actually, it is wise to avoid all chemicals if possible. Read the labels of the products you use on you child or to clean their clothes and your home. Choose non-toxic, biodegradable options, and don't be fooled

by the word "natural". Natural may only be part of a product full of unnatural additives.

Another huge problem with breathing is that children who live in a home where people are polluting the air with secondhand cigarette and cigar smoke are prone to more respiratory infections, including ear, nose and throat. Luckily, many offices are smoke-free today, but we have many adults come to us with lung and respiratory problems from working in a smoky environment.

And these are not the only problems linked to breathing problems. We know that antibiotics are linked to asthma and allergies many times causing production of excess mucus and breathing problems. A Canadian study found children treated with antibiotics under the age of one are twice as likely to develop asthma in childhood. Early studies suggested antibiotics and other drugs could affect the way the immune system works. Experts believe they kill off beneficial bacteria in the intestine and that this may lead to changes in the way the body deals with disease. Most mild asthma does not surface until the body is compromised with an upper respiratory viral infection. Antibiotics do not fight viruses. I recommend using sea water and sunshine as therapy for many viruses.

Many people including doctors are unaware or ill informed when it comes to the profound impact that diet has on most allergies. We have seen patients im-



prove dramatically with strict dietary changes. Cow milk, including in baby formula is one of the most offensive, mucus producing foods today. As a clinical nutritionist, after eliminating most milk from the diets of anyone suffering from asthma or allergies, I suggest healthier calcium rich foods like rice milk or dark green vegetables for growing and maintaining strong bones and teeth. Then, I recommend Lactobacillus acidophilus the most commonly used probiotic, or "friendly" bacteria. These healthy bacteria inhabit the intestines and protect against the entrance and proliferation of "bad" organisms that can cause disease. L. acidophilus also produces lactase, the enzyme that breaks down milk sugar (lactose) into simple sugars. People who are lactose intolerant do not produce this enzyme. For this reason, L. acidophilus supplements may be beneficial for these individuals.

At our clinic, we also look at the health of the mother or caretakers, which can affect the health of the children. Candida Albicans, common yeast out of control for example can be passed between close family members and causes a number of problems. When possible, I prefer to see the child together with the mother or

caretaker to make a full evaluation.

Get The Point! If your child has a cough that lasts for more than several weeks and if does not respond to cough suppressants, the likelihood of asthma is VERY high. Other common symptoms include colds that always seem much worse than other children their age. Another clue is if your child is short of breath when it is very cold outside or when they are aggressively exercising. If all symptoms are present you can be virtually certain your child has asthma. Want to raise healthier children? Call to make an appointment with a Certified Clinical Nutritionist.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist and specializes in Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA NATURAL HEALING CENTER NV, Kibaima 7, Aruba, TEL: 585-1270, Web Site:

www.vianaheal.com

Dr. Viana's Award Winning BOOK: Prescriptions from Paradise, Introduction to Biocompatible Medicine – Available at local Bookstores, Hotel Gift shops and Boticas. Signed copies at Viana Healing Center, EBooks: Amazon kindle, Nook, iTunes check for Events at: [facebook.com/vianahealingcenter](https://www.facebook.com/vianahealingcenter).

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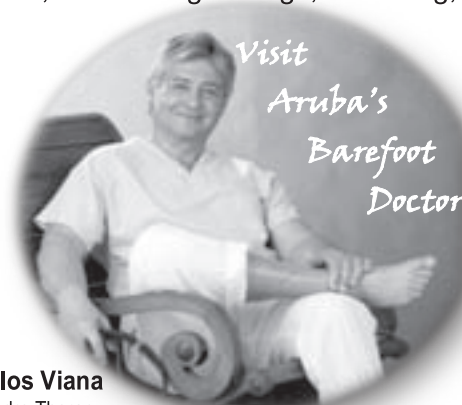


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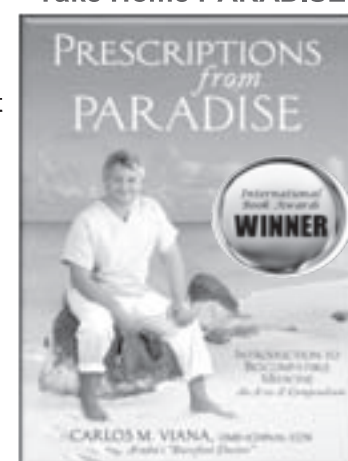
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No photos: US parents to keep kids off Facebook

BARBARA ORTUTAY

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Behold the cascade of baby photos, the flood of funny kid anecdotes and the steady stream of school milestones on Facebook.

It all makes Sonia Rao, a stay-at-home mother of a 1-year-old in California, "a little uncomfortable."

At a time when just about everyone and their mother — father, grandmother and aunt — is intent on publicizing the newest generation's early years on social media sites, an increasing number of U.S. parents like Rao are bucking the trend by consciously keeping their chil-

dren's photos, names and entire identities off the Internet.

"I just have a vague discomfort having her photograph out there for anyone to look at," says Rao. "When you meet a new person and go to their account, you can look them up, look at photos, videos, know that they are traveling."

Reasons for the baby blackout vary. Some parents have privacy and safety concerns. Others worry about what companies might do with their child's image and personal data. Some simply do it out of respect for their kids' autonomy before they are old enough to make de-

cisions for themselves.

"I have a no tolerance policy," says Scott Steinberg, a Missouri-based business and technology consultant. Steinberg says he shares no photos, videos or any information about his child.

As for Rao, she stays active on Facebook. She's happy posting photos of her dog, but not the many snapshots of her daughter and the pet together — no matter how cute they are. Rao does share baby pictures, via email or text, but only with close friends and family.

Facebook, for its part, encourages parents to use the site's privacy setting if they want to limit who can



In this Saturday, Aug. 16, 2014 photo provided by Wasim Ahmad, Ahmad, left, and his wife, Lakshmi Ramsoondar-Ahmad, pose with their newborn son in Merrick, N.Y.

Associated Press

see baby photos and other posts. It's possible, for example, to create a group of close friends and relatives to share kid updates with. But that's not enough for some users.

New parents Josh Furman and his wife, Alisha Klapholz, are protective of their newborn. The Maryland couple hasn't posted their daughter's legal name on Facebook or photos of her. Instead, they share her Hebrew name and a nickname to use just on Facebook. They ask friends and family to do the same. A big reason parents are wary, even if they use social media sites themselves, is that the companies "have not been very transparent about the way they collect data about users," says Caroline Knorr, parenting editor at the nonprofit Common Sense Media, which studies children's use of technology. "Facebook's terms of service and privacy (policies) — no one reads it, it's too obscure."

Some parents look back to their own childhoods, when they were able to make mistakes without evidence of those blunders living on — forever — online.

"I had the choice of what I wanted to reveal publicly," says Wasim Ahmad, journalism professor at Stonybrook University and father of a newborn son.

After his son was born, Ahmad bought the website domain with his son's name. "I'm going to make it a private website with a password so family can log in" to see updates, he says.

People have shared baby photos since the dawn of

the camera, and stories about kid's shenanigans long before that. Parents who decide to keep photos of their children and other data off social media say they still want to share those things, but are bothered by the idea of online permanence.

Parents who enforce strict blackout rules are still in the minority. In a 2011 poll conducted at the University of Michigan, 66 percent of Generation X parents (people born in the 1960s and '70s) said they post photos of their children online, while more than half said they have shared news about a child's accomplishment online.

Aisha Sultan, a fellow at the Michigan institute where the poll was conducted, thinks the results might be different if the same questions were posed to respondents today.

"Back (then) there wasn't a lot of conversation about this," says Sultan, who is a nationally syndicated parenting advice columnist. "When parents first started joining Facebook in large numbers it wasn't the primary concern. We felt like we were in control of information we were sharing with friends and family."

Facebook's privacy blunders over the years, not to mention frequent updates to its confusing privacy policies, changed all that. Now, Sultan says, parents are more aware of the little control they have over their personal data online.

Lawmakers have begun to pay attention to the issue, too. □

Tips for parents: To post or not to post?

By BARBARA ORTUTAY

AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) -- Privacy-wary parents are increasingly pausing before they post photos, names and other information about their wee ones on social media. Some are choosing a complete blackout, while others opt for nicknames and a few carefully selected snapshots. Here are some social media tips for parents, relatives and friends.

- ASK FIRST, POST LATER

If you don't know how a parent feels about having photos of their kids posted on Facebook, Instagram or elsewhere, ask before uploading a photo and before you tag the parents in a photo. This goes even for close relatives. Actually, it's not a bad idea to ask everyone you post a photo of if they're cool with it, especially if the snaps were taken at a party, swimming pool or any other less buttoned-up situation. It can prevent awkward conversations later.

- LIMIT AUDIENCES

Facebook's privacy settings are complex, but they also offer granular settings that let you pick who can see your updates. One way to do this: Create a "secret"

group and add the members you want. The problem here is that anyone in the group can add new members to the group.

Another way to limit the audience of each post you share is to click on the right tab under your update, which may currently say "friends" or "public." Click on "custom" and choose which of your Facebook friends you want to share with and which ones you'd like to exclude. It's simpler on Instagram, where you can either lock your account or set it to public.

- TALK TO YOUR KIDS

Opinions on the age at which parents should start talking to their kids about Internet and social media use vary. Some parents start as soon as their child is old enough to use a smartphone, which can be as early as 2 or 3 years. Amy Heinz, who blogs about her kids, often talks to her 8-year-old about posts she writes about him, but says her younger children, who are 5 and 3, know about the blog but "don't have a concept" of what it means exactly. Caroline Knorr, parenting editor at the nonprofit Common Sense Media, waited until her son was 15 before

posting a photo of him on Facebook — and asked his permission first.

- GO THE OLD-FASHIONED ROUTE

Some parents opt for emailing or texting photos to one person or to a small group rather than sharing them more widely on social media. Online storage services such as Google Drive and Dropbox also let you distribute photos privately, as do photo-sharing sites such as Flickr. Of course, there's always the old-fashioned snail mail method, if you can still find a place to print snapshots.

- DON'T EMBARRASS THEM

That photo of your little one with pea soup all over her face, or the one that shows her first time on the potty might be funny at the time, but think about what she may think of the photo if it's still online when she's a teen. Today's generation of parents did not grow up with the reality that their private moments growing up will be documented and often posted on the Internet for all eternity. Before posting a photo or anecdote, take a moment to imagine a conversation about it with your child 10 or 15 years from now. □

Stocks rise as US home construction rebounds

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A summer swoon for the stock market appears to be over for now.

The Standard & Poor's 500 index closed within six points of its all-time high Tuesday, less than two weeks after slumping on concerns about rising tensions in Iraq and Ukraine.

Investors were encouraged by economic reports that suggested growth may be poised to pick up, while inflation remains subdued. A pair of company earnings reports also hinted that consumers are getting more confident and spending more.

Home Depot, the nation's largest home improvement retailer, rose after raising its annual profit forecast following a strong spring selling season. TJX, the parent company of T.J. Maxx, Marshalls and other stores, climbed on strong earnings.

"The economic reports ... have been coming out better than expected," said Robert Pavlik, Chief Market Strategist at Banyan Partners. "There's been a shift in the focus of investors away from some of the geopolitical events." The Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 9.86 points, or 0.5 percent, to 1,981.60. The index is up 1.4 percent for the week and is approaching its record close of 1,987.98 reached July 24. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 80.85 points, or 0.5 percent, to 16,919.59. The Nasdaq composite climbed 19.20

points, or 0.4 percent, to 4,527.51.

TJX, the parent company of T.J. Maxx, Marshalls and other stores, was the biggest gainer in the S&P 500 on Tuesday. The company's stock rose \$4.66, or 8.6 percent, to \$58.56 after it reported that its quarterly income climbed 8 percent as sales strengthened in the U.S. and abroad. The

"Home Depot's earnings give you a measure of confidence in housing, to an extent, and a measure of retail confidence," said JJ Kinahan, chief strategist at TD Ameritrade. "Those are two areas where we like to look to see how the consumer is really feeling." After rising to a record in July, stocks slumped in the first week of August. The

up 0.1 percent, after larger gains of 0.3 percent in June and 0.4 percent in May. If inflation remains constrained, investors judge that the Federal Reserve will be able keep its key interest rate low for longer. The Fed is currently winding down its economic stimulus but hasn't yet said when it will start raising interest rates.



Greg Mulligan, center, works with fellow traders on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2014. Better news on home building and corporate earnings sent stocks higher for the day.
(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

results beat the estimates of Wall Street analysts. TJX also lifted its full-year earnings forecast.

Home Depot jumped \$4.64, or 5.6 percent, to \$88.23 after the company said its quarterly income surged 14 percent. Spring is the biggest season for home-improvement retailers as homeowners work on their yards and gardens. Home Depot has also been helped by an improving housing market.

S&P 500 index fell as much as 4 percent from its record close to 1,909.57 on August 7, as investors worried about tensions between Russia and the West over Ukraine and the implications for global growth.

A report that showed inflation remains subdued also gave stocks a lift Tuesday. U.S. consumer prices rose in July at the slowest pace in five months, held back by a drop in gasoline prices. Consumer prices edged

Beauty products company Elizabeth Arden was one of the big losers on Tuesday. The company slumped after reporting lower sales and a loss that was bigger than analysts' had expected. The company said the decline in sales of celebrity fragrances, particularly the Justin Bieber and Taylor Swift scents, was steeper than had been anticipated. Arden's stock dropped \$4.56, or 23 percent, to \$15.05. □

AP: Ballmer steps down from the Microsoft board

RYAN NAKASHIMA
AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Former Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer is stepping down from the company's board, closing a chapter on 34 years with the software giant.

Ballmer says he plans to devote more time to his ownership of the Los Angeles Clippers, civic contributions, study and teaching business at Stanford in the fall and USC next spring.

Microsoft Corp. published Ballmer's resignation letter on its website Tuesday along with a response from current CEO Satya Nadella thanking him and wishing him well.

The 58-year-old says he plans to hold on to his Microsoft stock and will continue to offer feedback on products and strategy. With 333.3 million shares worth \$15 billion, Ballmer's 4 percent stake in the company makes him the largest individual shareholder. A few institutional investors hold slightly more.

"I bleed Microsoft — have for 34 years and I always will," Ballmer wrote. "I will be proud, and I will benefit through my share ownership. I promise to support and encourage boldness by management in my role as a shareholder in any way I can." Ballmer stepped down as chief executive in February, and since then Microsoft shares have risen about 24 percent. The stock closed Tuesday up 0.5 percent at \$45.33. He noted his resignation from the board comes as the company prepares for its next shareholder meeting set for sometime this fall.

Nadella thanked Ballmer for his support during the transition period and used the opportunity to reiterate the company's new focus on mobile devices and cloud computing.

"Under your leadership, we created an incredible foundation that we continue to build on — and Microsoft will thrive in the mobile-first, cloud-first world," Nadella said. □

NY regulators sanction Standard Chartered Bank

MICHAEL VIRTANEN
Associated Press

ALBANY, New York (AP) — Standard Chartered Bank reached an agreement with New York regulators to pay a \$300 million penalty and suspend dollar exchanges through its New York branch for high-risk retail businessclients at its SCB Hong Kong subsidiary.

The Department of Financial Services said the order signed Tuesday followed the British bank's failure to

fix compliance problems against money laundering as required under a two-year-old settlement. The independent monitor established under that settlement found the bank failed to detect many potentially high-risk transactions for further review, with a significant number also originating from branches in the United Arab Emirates.

Standard Chartered said it's continuing to fix its control issues and will work with "the

small proportion" of clients affected in Hong Kong and the UAE to minimize disruption. "We are committed to compliance with the order and our continuing work with the monitor," spokesman Shaun Gamble said. New York regulators reached a \$340 million settlement with the bank two years ago intended to settle allegations it schemed with the Iranian government to launder \$250 billion from 2001 to 2007. Terms includ-

ed installing the monitor for at least two years to evaluate the bank's risk controls for money laundering and corrective action.

"If a bank fails to live up to its commitments, there should be consequences," department Superintendent Ben Lawsky said Tuesday. "That is particularly true in an area as serious as anti-money-laundering compliance, which is vital to helping prevent terrorism and vile human rights abuses." □

PetSmart Inc. considering putting itself up for sale

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Bowing to pressure from investors, PetSmart Inc. said Tuesday that it is considering putting itself up for sale.

The pet supply chain said that it will weigh "strategic alternatives" after a board review that included conversations with shareholders.

Investment firm Longview Asset Management and hedge fund Jana Partners have both called on PetSmart to sell itself, a move they say would benefit shareholders. Longview has about a 9 percent stake in PetSmart, while Jana holds nearly 10 percent, according to FactSet. The company also said it

plans to cut costs. It said it will provide more details next quarter and expects to realize the savings by the end of its next fiscal year. Its shares rose 3.4 percent to \$72.10 in after-hours trading. The stock has dropped 4 percent this year. The Phoenix-based company in May cut its earnings outlook for the year, citing

a challenging consumer environment and competition.

PetSmart said Tuesday that it is focusing on pet food, exclusive brands and services, online shoppers and a loyalty program. It also announced a \$130 million acquisition of online retailer Pet360, whose websites include Pet360.com,

PetFoodDirect.com and petMD.com, to bolster its online business.

In the fiscal second quarter, PetSmart's earnings rose 5.1 percent to \$98.1 million, or 98 cents per share. Revenue in the quarter that ended on Aug. 3 rose 1.4 percent to \$1.73 billion. It left its guidance for the year unchanged. □

Container shipping rise bodes well for world trade

JAN M. OLSEN

Associated Press

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (AP) — The world's largest shipping company says it is sending more containers around world, a sign that global trade — and possibly economic growth — is picking up.

A.P. Moller-Maersk, which investors monitor as a bellwether for world trade, lifted Tuesday its earnings outlook on the back of an increase in freight volumes, a promising development at a time when a major economy like China is slowing and much of Europe remains stagnant.

The Danish group said shipping volumes rose 6.6 percent in the second quarter, one of several factors that caused its net profit to more than triple to \$2.3 billion.

CEO Nils S. Andersen noted the profits were "achieved in challenging markets" and helped by cost cuts and a profit on the sale of a majority stake in the company's retail business.

But the figures are likely to support expectations of a pickup in trade this year from a weak level in 2013.

year's 2.1 percent but still short of the 20-year average of 5.3 percent.

Maersk did not specify in

of Europe and many developing countries.

The Copenhagen-based group, which also has op-

that ended June 30 from \$11 billion a year earlier.

As a result, it now expects its profit for 2014 to be "significantly above" the 2013 result of \$3.8 billion. When not counting one-time gains or charges, it expects profit to be \$4.5 billion, up from expectations of \$4 billion.

Despite the improvements, Maersk said it had to keep focusing on cutting costs. The company this year sought to create an alliance of the world's three biggest container shipping operators.

The deal to set up an independently operated network of 255 vessels in late 2014 was scrapped, however, due to opposition by Chinese authorities.

Instead of that deal, Maersk's shipping division in July entered a 10-year vessel-sharing agreement with the world's second largest carrier, Mediterranean Shipping Company, on key routes across the Atlantic, Pacific and between Europe and Asia. □



Workers chat near a container ship at a port in Qingdao in east China's Shandong province. The world's largest shipping company says it is sending more containers around world, a sign that global trade — and possibly economic growth — is picking up.

(AP Photo)

The World Trade Organization in April forecast trade will grow by 4.7 percent, more than double last

what regions its activity is growing, but the WTO sees trade increasing in the United States, some parts

erations in the oil and drilling industry, said its overall revenues rose to \$12 billion in the three-month period

BHP plans asset split, posts \$13.8 billion profit

SYDNEY (AP) — BHP Billiton, the world's biggest miner, said Tuesday it plans to split off some of its smaller assets into a separate company, as it posted a \$13.8 billion annual profit.

Melbourne, Australia-based BHP said the reorganization will allow it to concentrate on its mainstay iron ore, copper, coal, petroleum and potash busi-

nesses. The new company, which will have BHP's current chief financial officer Graham Kerr as its CEO, will include some of BHP's assets from five countries, including aluminum, nickel, manganese, silver and coal. It will be based in Perth, Australia, and listed on the Australian Securities Exchange, with a secondary listing in South Africa.

"We believe the proposed demerger, if implemented, will accelerate the simplification of the group's portfolio, provide investors with choice and unlock value in both companies," BHP chairman Jac Nasser said in a statement.

The proposed split is subject to regulatory approvals and will be put before shareholders for a vote. The

spinoff is expected to be completed in the first half of 2015.

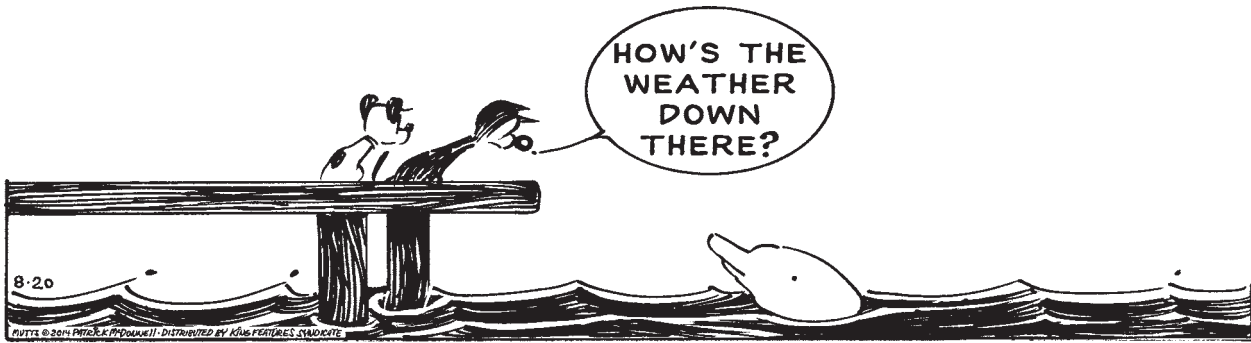
Meanwhile, BHP on Tuesday posted a \$13.8 billion profit for the 12 months to June 30, up more than 23 percent from last year. Revenue was up 1.9 percent to \$67.2 billion.

The results follow another strong year for the company's iron ore business, with

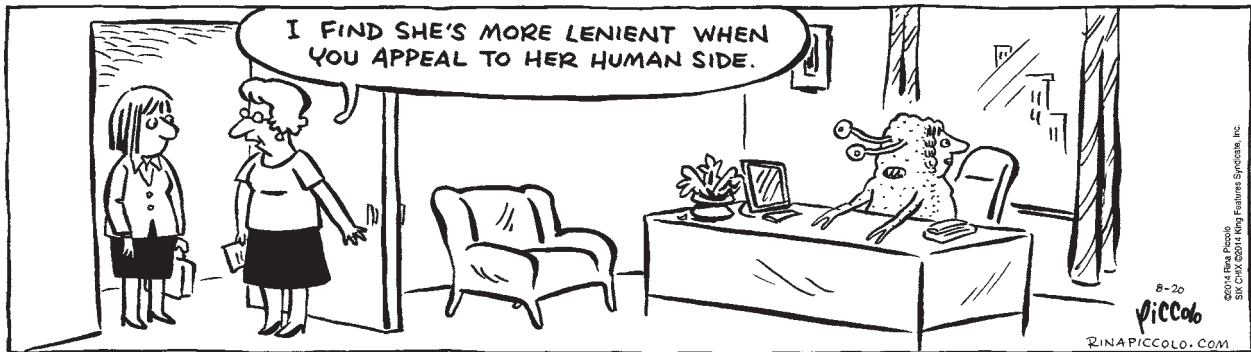
production up 20 percent in 2014.

"Our operational performance continued to improve, enabling us to exceed production guidance for a number of our core commodities including iron ore, metallurgical coal and petroleum liquids," said CEO Andrew Mackenzie. BHP declared a final dividend of 62 cents a share. □

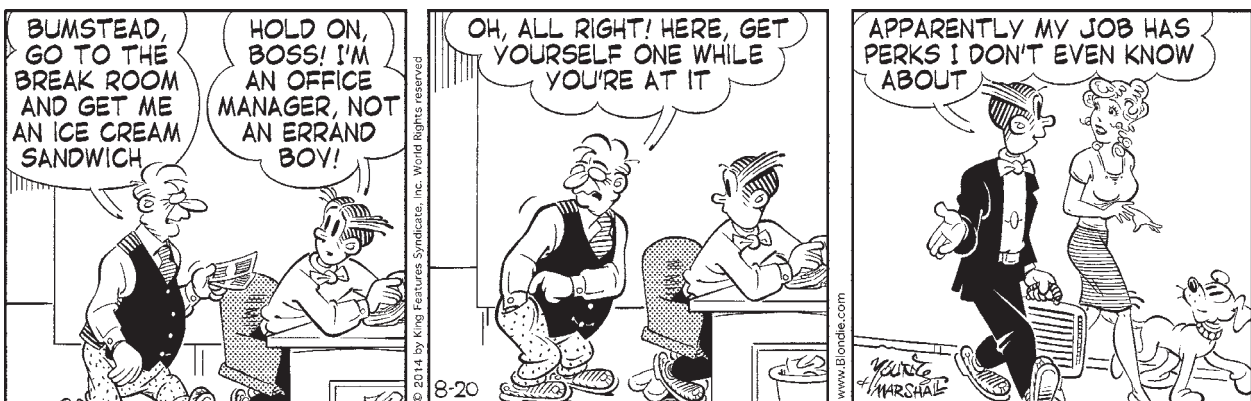
Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

		2	1	6	3	4		
	4						6	
9				4				3
3				5				7
4	8			9	7	5		1
7								2
5								6
	3			2			9	
		9	6	1	8	3		

Difficulty Level ★★★

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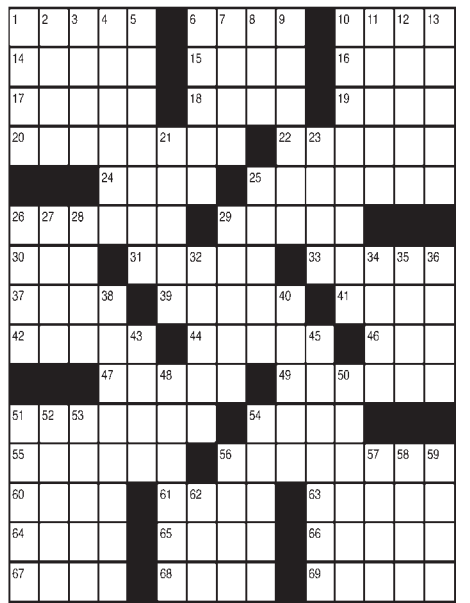
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

4	2	5	7	9	6	8	1	3
7	6	3	1	8	4	2	9	5
9	1	8	5	3	2	4	7	6
5	4	9	6	2	1	3	8	7
6	8	7	3	4	5	9	2	1
2	3	1	9	7	8	5	6	4
8	7	2	4	6	3	1	5	9
1	9	4	2	5	7	6	3	8
3	5	6	8	1	9	7	4	2

ACROSS

- Postage ____; requirement for a mailed letter
- Hotels
- ____ and cons
- Zeal
- Authentic
- Every
- Intertwine
- Late entertainer Danny ____
- Ceremony
- Part of a school year
- Cleared the slate
- Use a Kindle
- Small pianos
- ____ add up; makes no sense
- Cicely or Mike
- ____ League; group of colleges
- Singing voice
- Short & pudgy
- Go off course
- Scoundrel
- Fellow
- Finished
- Syrup flavor
- Source of heat
- Dads
- ____ off; leaves suddenly
- Got into an argument
- Slumbers
- Six years, for a U.S. senator
- Spookier
- Ad in the singles column
- Related
- ____ tea; cold drink
- Mr. Carmichael
- Bewildered
- Washerful
- Furry swimmer
- Observes
- Nimble
- ____ Were the Days
- Firstborn of two
- Show boldness
- Within ____; near enough to hear
- Dangers
- Even; level
- SeaWorld performers
- Tea variety
- Get up
- Stuffed bear
- ____ a partridge in a ____ tree...
- Intl. military alliance
- Grows gray
- Harp of old
- Police officer



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

8/20/14

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

JAY	AWFUL	PART
ICED	LHASA	OBEY
BEAR	LIKEN	KEEN
SHAMELESS	IDLE	
WAGE	BAN	
SHRINE	PLUNGING	
PAINS	HEARD	VIA
LUNG	DOTTY	HIES
ITS	MELEE	PIECE
TEEN	AGER	LASSES
APR	TENT	
PONG	ACCESSORY	
AGOG	DOORS	ROOK
TRUE	ERASE	YOGI
SEND	DETER	FAN

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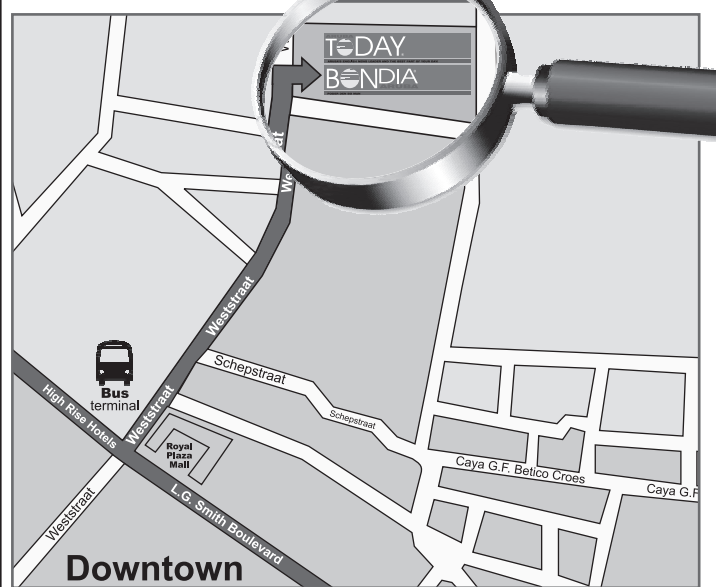
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Peek into brain shows how kids learn math skills

LAURAN NEERGAARD

AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — At some point, children quit counting your fingers and just know the answer. Now scientists have put youngsters into brain scanners to find out why, and watched how the brain reorganizes itself as kids learn math.

The take-home advice: drilling your kids on simple addition and multiplication may pay off.

"Experience really does matter," said Dr. Kathy Mann Koepke of the National Institutes of Health, which funded the research.

Healthy children start making that switch between counting to what's called fact retrieval when they're 8 years old to 9 years old, when they're still working on fundamental addition and subtraction. How well kids make that shift to memory-based problem-solving is known to predict their ultimate math achievement.

Those who fall behind "are impairing or slowing down their math learning later on," Mann Koepke said.

But why do some kids make the transition easier than others?

To start finding out, Stanford University researchers first peeked into the brains of 28 children as they solved a series of simple addition problems inside a brain-scanning MRI machine.

No scribbling out the answer: The 7- to 9-year-olds saw a calculation — three plus four equals seven, for example — flash on a screen and pushed a button to say if the answer was right or wrong. Scientists recorded how quickly



In this Oct. 1, 2013, file photo, third grade teacher Melissa Grieshober teaches a math lesson at Silver Lake Elementary School in Middletown, Del. Sometime in elementary school, you quit counting your fingers and just know the answer. **Associated Press**

they responded and what regions of their brain became active as they did. In a separate session, they also tested the kids face to face, watching if they moved their lips or counted on their fingers, for comparison with the brain data.

The children were tested twice, roughly a year apart. As the kids got older, their answers relied more on memory and became faster and more accurate, and it showed in the brain. There was less activity in the prefrontal and parietal regions associated with counting and more in the brain's memory center, the hippocampus, the researchers reported Sunday in *Nature Neuroscience*.

The hippocampus is sort of like a relay station where new memories come in — short-term working memory — and then can be sent elsewhere for longer-term storage and retrieval. Those hippocampal connections increased with the kids' math performance.

"The stronger the connections, the greater each individual's ability to retrieve facts from memory," said Dr. Vinod Menon, a psychiatry professor at Stanford and the study's senior author.

But that's not the whole story. Next, Menon's team put 20 adolescents and 20 adults into the MRI machines and gave them the same simple addition problems. It turns out that adults don't use their memory-crunch-

ing hippocampus in the same way. Instead of using a lot of effort, retrieving six plus four equals 10 from long-term storage was almost automatic, Menon said.

In other words, over time the brain became increasingly efficient at retrieving facts. Think of it like a bumpy, grassy field, NIH's Mann Koepke explained. Walk over the same spot enough and a smooth, grass-free path forms, making it easier to get from

start to end.

If your brain doesn't have to work as hard on simple math, it has more working memory free to process the teacher's brand-new lesson on more complex math. "The study provides new evidence that this experience with math actually changes the hippocampal patterns, or the connections. They become more stable with skill development," she said. "So learning your addition and multiplication tables and having them in rote memory helps."

Quiz your child in different orders, she advised — nine times three and then 10 times nine — to make sure they really remember and didn't have to think it through. While the study focuses on math, Mann Koepke said cognitive development in general probably works the same way. After all, kids who match sounds to letters earlier learn to read faster. Stanford's Menon said the next step is to study what goes wrong with this system in children with math learning disabilities, so that scientists might try new strategies to help them learn. □

Thousands of intense earthquakes rock Iceland

LONDON (AP) — Thousands of small intense earthquakes are rocking Iceland amid concerns that one of the country's volcanoes may be close to erupting.

Iceland has raised its aviation alert level for the risk of a possible volcanic eruption to orange — the second-most severe level. The alert is worrisome because of the chaos that followed the April 2010 eruption of Eyjafjallajökul, when more than 100,000 flights were cancelled because volcanic ash floating in the atmosphere is considered an aviation safety hazard.

Some 3,000 earthquakes have taken place since Saturday in Bardarbunga — a subglacial strato-



This is a Saturday May 8 2010 file image taken from video of a column of ash rising from Iceland's Eyjafjallajökul volcano. **Associated Press**

volcano located under Iceland's largest glacier. Iceland's Meteorological Office said that no earthquakes above magnitude

3 have been recorded in the last 24 hours.

Seismologists said Tuesday magma is moving, but it is traveling horizontally. □



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Fisher Stevens goes on a filmmaking 'Mission Blue'

LYNN ELBER

AP Television Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — When Fisher Stevens approached prominent oceanographer Sylvia Earle about featuring both her life and her work in a documentary, she resisted the idea. Turning the camera on her efforts to protect the seas was one thing, but putting herself center stage made Earle uneasy, Stevens said. Actor-filmmaker Stevens managed to persuade her to change her mind, and the result is "Mission Blue," directed by Stevens and Robert Nixon (co-producer, "Gorillas in the Mist") and available on Netflix.

"If we want to save the ocean, we have to see it through her eyes and get people engaged through her life and her passion," Stevens said.

Earle, Time magazine's first "Hero for the Planet," is a former chief scientist for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration whose many honors include the 2011 Royal Geographical Society Gold Medal.

The founder of Mission Blue, among other organizations, Earle's focus includes creating a global web of "hope spots," marine sanctuaries in which activities including drilling and commercial fishing are prohibited. A number of such protected ocean



This undated image released by Netflix shows Dr. Sylvia Earle in a scene from the Netflix documentary "Mission Blue." Associated Press

Country Crue: Nashville embraces heavy metal

KRISTIN M. HALL

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Vince Neil and Nikki Sixx have spent so much time hanging out with country artists for a Motley Crue tribute album that they know how to write the classic country song. First, the subject of a country ballad isn't that far from the life of a rock 'n' roller, the blond lead singer said as he sat in a Nashville, Tennessee, hotel next to guitarist Sixx.

"You're young and you go out drinking, drugging and writing songs," Neil said. "Bad stuff happens: you lose your wife, your house, your car."

"And you write a song about it," Sixx chimed in. Instead of a clash of cultures on the 15-song album, "Nashville Outlaws: A Tribute to Motley Crue," released Tuesday, Nashville's country crooners welcomed the teased-hair, leather-clad metal band whose rock anthems helped define the '80s.

Backed by Big Machine Label Group CEO Scott Borchetta, who brought to the album his wide roster of artists including Rascal Flatts, Florida Georgia Line



This Jan. 28, 2014 file photo shows, from left, Vince Neil, Nikki Sixx, Tommy Lee, and Mick Mars of Motley Crue at a press conference in Los Angeles. Associated Press

and Brantley Gilbert, the multi-genre approach fits right in with younger fans of country music whose tastes fall all over the radio dial.

Motley Crue, in the middle of their final tour in the United States and Canada, had no input on the artists or how the songs were performed. The standout performances sound very little like the electric guitar heavy originals, such as when LeAnn Rimes sings "Smokin' in the Boys Room" with a horn section or when The Mavericks bring their Cuban country beat to "Dr. Feelgood."

Big & Rich, Darius Rucker, Gretchen Wilson and Justin Moore also appear on

the album. For some of the artists, it was the lyrics and emotions that drew them to the project.

"More than anything this song is country, but it's Southern rock," Moore said of his version of "Home Sweet Home," the album's lead single. "It's something you don't hear very often anymore, so I am very proud of it."

For Neil, whose father was from Texas, this isn't the country music he rebelled against as a teenager who loved rock 'n' roll.

"I saw Florida Georgia Line, and one of the guys has a Mohawk and tattoos," Neil said. "I mean, you can't get any more rock 'n' roll than that." □

areas have been designated during the film's more than four years of production, Stevens said. Stevens hopes the documentary's bluntness paired with Earle's optimism, encourages individuals and governments to respect the vulnerability of every body of water, whether oceans, rivers or streams.

"I hope people want to get in the water, be careful what they put in it and what fish they eat," said Stevens. An avid scuba diver since his Florida days starring in Fox's 1993 series "Key West," Stevens said he's seen firsthand how much some fish populations and coral reefs have deteriorated over the years.

The documentary tracks Earle as she pursues her longtime dedication to exploring and aiding the seas. How her commitment developed and its effect on her personal world, including her roles as a wife and mother, also a key part of the film. Earle, who will be 79 on Aug. 30 and who Stevens said puts him to shame as a hardy diver, is a trailblazer in many ways.

In the 1960s, she made the then-bold decision to temporarily leave her family to undertake an expedition with an all-male group of 70 colleagues, Stevens said. In 1979, she

set a women's depth-diving record of more than 1,200 feet — "Terrifying, but not for her. She's an explorer," he said.

Although the issue of environmental protection can be divisive, Stevens said he doesn't expect the film to stir controversy. That's in contrast to "The Cove," the Oscar-winning 2009 film he helped produce which depicted how fishermen in a Japanese village herd dolphins into a cove and spear them for their meat, which is considered a delicacy.

The fishermen of Taiji said the hunt is part of their village's tradition and condemned Western critics who eat other kinds of meat as hypocritical.

When asked if his filmmaking has affected his on-screen career, Stevens said only in that it can cloud the perception of what he does. He's still an actor who enjoys working in films and on stage, he said, adding, "but you don't have to do just one thing." "I love making documentaries, love the people I get to meet and the life of it and the freedom of filmmaking, as opposed to when you're doing a feature and you have the studio and the producers breathing down your neck," he said. "There's a great freedom of expression." □

Smithsonian adds LGBT history to museum collection

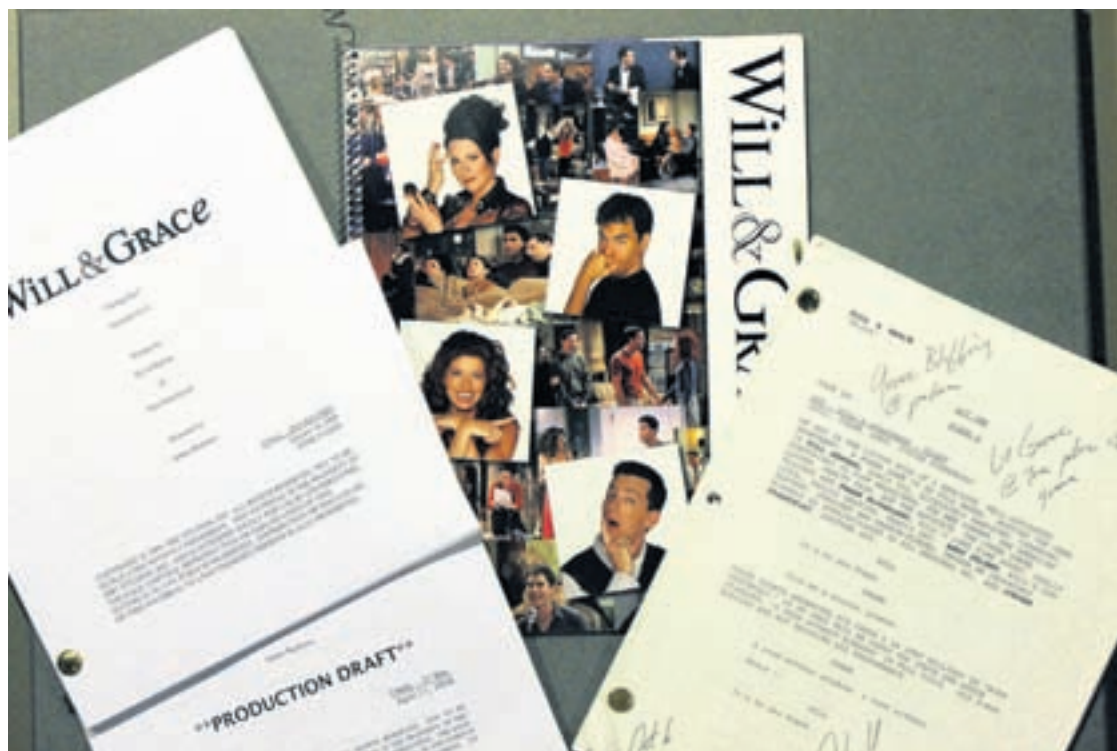
BRETT ZONGKER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hundreds of photographs, papers and historical objects documenting the history of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people are being added to the Smithsonian Institution's collection Tuesday, including items from the popular TV show "Will and Grace."

Show creators David Kohan and Max Mutchnick along with NBC are donating objects to the National Museum of American History. The collection includes original scripts, casting ideas, political memorabilia surrounding the show and the series finale. The network agreed to donate props, including a pill bottle and flask, a sign from "Grace Adler Interior Design" and Will Truman's framed college diploma.

Kohan told The Associated Press that the Smithsonian's interest in the show featuring gay principal characters was a validation they never dreamed about when the sitcom began airing in 1998. "Will and Grace" ran through May 2006 depicting four friends both gay and straight, eventually ending with the



This handout photo provided by the Smithsonian National Museum of American History shows production scripts and press materials from NBC's Will & Grace program, 2000-2006.

Associated Press

main characters coupled off with children.

"These particular guests that were invited into people's living rooms happened to be your gay friends," Kohan said. "I don't think people really had the opportunity to have that before, and it served to, I think, make people recognize that your close friends were gay."

"The fact that it's in the American history (museum), maybe we were a part of something that was bigger than we ever imagined," Kohan said.

The donation is part of larger effort to document gay and lesbian history, an area that has not been well understood at the museum. Curators are collecting materials from LGBT politi-

cal, sports and cultural history objects from Arizona to Maryland.

Some items being donated include the diplomatic passports of Ambassador David Huebner, the first openly gay U.S. ambassador confirmed by the Senate, and his husband; materials from a gay community center in Baltimore; and photography collec-

tions from Patsy Lynch and Silvia Ros documenting gay rights activism.

From sports history, the museum will receive a tennis racket from former professional player Renee Richards who won a landmark New York Supreme Court decision for transgender rights after she was denied entry to the U.S. Open in 1975.

"There have always been gender non-conforming people in the U.S., and we've made contributions and lived life since the beginning of the country," said Curator Katherine Ott who focuses on sexuality and gender. "It's not talked about and analyzed and understood in the critical ways in which it should be. So for us to build the collection means we can more fully document the history of this country."

"Will and Grace" used comedy to familiarize a mainstream audience with gay culture, said Curator Dwight Blocker Bowers. It was daring and broke ground in the same way "All in the Family" did in the 1970s around issues of bigotry and tolerance, Bowers said.

U.S. TV, radio announcer Don Pardo dies at 96

FRAZIER MOORE

AP Television Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Few would recognize his face, but most Americans would know his voice: a booming baritone that for nearly four decades would introduce the lineups on "Saturday Night Live."

Don Pardo, the durable television and radio announcer whose resonant voice-over style was widely imitated and became the standard in the field, died Monday in Arizona at the age of 96.

Pardo graced newscasts, game shows and TV programs for more than 60 years. During the original version of "Jeopardy!," his answers to the question, "Tell 'em what they've won, Don Pardo," became a memorable part of the program.



This March 14, 1992 photo provided by NBC shows announcer Don Pardo on the set of "Saturday Night Live."

Associated Press

And he was an integral part of "Saturday Night Live," heralding the cast's names to kick off each show, which led former cast member Jimmy Fallon to comment later, "Nothing is

like the moment when Don Pardo says your name."

His was no ordinary voice and he guarded it closely, with cough drops always at the ready.

Dominick George Pardo

was born in Massachusetts on Feb. 22, 1918. After graduating from Boston's Emerson College in 1942, he began his vocal career at radio station WJAR in Providence, Rhode Island. Two years later, he met a supervisor at NBC who hired the young Pardo immediately.

Pardo made his mark right away, reading news dispatches on the radio filed from the front lines during World War II. After the war, he became an announcer for such shows as the "Arthur Murray Party," "Colgate Comedy Hour" and "Your Show of Shows."

In 1954, he was brought in to announce "Winner Takes All," beginning a long run in game shows. His voice was heard on the "The Price is Right" in its early years, and he was the announcer on

the original "Jeopardy!" (1964-75), hosted by Art Fleming.

Then in 1975, NBC launched "Saturday Night Live" with Pardo as its announcer, introducing him to a new generation of viewers with a voice as magnificent as ever — although, on opening night, he botched one of the credits. He also introduced sportscaster Len Berman's "Spanning the World" compilations of funny sports moments, a regular feature on the "Today" show. ("Tune in next time ... if there is a next time.")

In between working on all these shows, Pardo often spent several hours a day in an NBC sound studio, letting viewers know before each break to a commercial that the last program was brought to them by a certain advertiser.

Northern Exposure



GAIL COLLINS

© 2014 New York Times

"Are you afraid of heights?" a questioner asked Alaskan Senate candidates in a debate this week.

The three men onstage, all running for the Republican nomination in next week's primary, vigorously denied they suffered from acrophobia.

"Have you eaten salmon this week?" Yes! Yes! Yes!

We definitely need more of this kind of query in our political debates. First of all, it perks up an audience. And you learn stuff. As the yes-or-no segment went on, we discovered that all the candidates had gotten speeding tickets and that the Tea Party guy was once charged with carrying a gun in an airport. Alaska is one of the states that will decide which party controls the Senate next term. The incumbent, Democrat Mark Begich, is running hard as a moderate who works hand-in-hand with Alaska's Republican senator, Lisa Murkowski. (Murkowski recently served Begich with a cease-and-desist letter, demanding that he stop running ads showing them smiling at each other.)

One of the Republican contenders, Joe Miller, is so far to the right that he's practically in Canada. Miller, who's obsessed with immigration and "amnesty," recently sent out a mailer covered with pictures of scary-looking, tattooed Hispanic men. "Begich wants them to vote. And if 20 million illegals vote, you can kiss the 2nd amendment goodbye," it read.

Besides being racist and incredibly offensive, the flier appeared to be arguing that criminals are sneaking across our southern border bent on making firearms illegal. "Now who would be more against gun control than Salvadoran gangsters?" wondered Michael Carey, a columnist for the Alaska Dispatch. Four years ago, Miller actually won the Republican Senate nomination, knocking out Murkowski after claiming she had changed her positions "more often than a moose sheds its antlers." The moose ad was the high point of his campaign, as opposed to, say, the time his security guards handcuffed a reporter. Cooler heads prevailed in November, and Murkowski got re-elected as a write-in candidate. In the Senate, she votes with the Republicans most of the time, but she works well with Democrats. Except Begich who, really, was just there in the room when she was smiling at an amusing joke she happened to

remember.

The two normal Republicans in the race - Lt. Gov. Mead Treadwell and former Attorney General Dan Sullivan - are pretty much sticking to running against federal spending. "I'm not going to Washington with a gunny sack to bring home federal money," Treadwell announced during the debate. "I'm going with a crowbar to pry loose our liberties."

Yet - you've already guessed this, right? - Alaska gets more federal money per person than any other state. And there's virtually no discussion of eliminating anything its residents - who pay no state income tax or sales tax - get now. During the debate, all three Republicans supported more spending on the military and a continuation of Alaska's super-subsidized mail service.

We have been through this before in Mississippi. First, the candidate decries Washington spendthrifts. Then, when pressed for ideas on ways to cut back, he comes up with Obamacare and something totally unrelated to his home state. In Mississippi, it was Alaska's Bridge to Nowhere. However, many Alaskans still believe that \$398 million span between Ketchikan and Gravina Island was a perfectly reasonable idea.

During the debate, Sullivan referred to any federal program he liked as "infrastructure." Treadwell said his fiscal restraint did not cover stuff his state actually needs. ("If we need an icebreaker with 44,000 miles of coastline, I'm going to fight for it. If we need sanitation, I'm going to fight for it.")

If the Senate nomination was the only thing on the ballot Tuesday, we could anticipate a turnout of about somewhere from 6 to 16 people, depending on how many of Joe Miller's eight children are old enough to vote. But there's more! Including a big referendum on taxing oil companies, with Sarah Palin urging her fans to tax the rich. Palin has been a wing nut for so long that we've forgotten that she made her name in Alaska as an actual reformer. Her great achievement as governor was a law that taxed oil companies at rates between 25 percent and 75 percent, depending on their profits. After she abandoned the state midterm for the glories of reality television and Fox News commentary, the Legislature backtracked and eventually replaced the sliding scale with a flat tax of 35 percent.

Grass-roots opponents collected enough signatures to get a vote on restoring the old system. Unfortunately, the roots are being outspent about 100 to 1 by the oil companies. And Palin's 18-minute monologue in support of her signature reform - broadcast on her SarahPalin channel - has the overall effect of being trapped in an airplane with a seatmate who has inhaled helium.

"Look them in the eye and say: 'You'd better look Big Oil in the eye!'" Palin said. As only she can. □



Where's the Justice at Justice?



MAUREEN DOWD

© 2014 New York Times

WASHINGTON - Jim Risen is gruff. The tall slab of a reporter looks like someone who could have played an Irish Marine sergeant in an old World War II movie.

"Editors think I'm a curmudgeon," the 59-year-old admits, laughing.

Eric Lichtblau, the reporter who sits next to Risen in The Times' Washington bureau and who won a Pulitzer with him for their remarkable stories about the Bush administration's illegal warrantless wiretapping, says Risen revels in his prickly, old-school style, acting contrary on everything from newfangled computers to the Bush crew's fictions about Saddam and WMD to cautious editors.

"He's pushed to go places that often editors are unwilling to go," Lichtblau said. "He's never taken the safe route."

Once Lichtblau took him to a pickup basketball game and, naturally, Risen got in a fight with a lobbyist about the rules for being out of bounds.

As Carl Hulse, The Times' chief Washington correspondent, wryly puts it: "Whether it's editors or government officials, Jim definitely won't take no for an answer, but he will certainly give it." Over lunch near the White House on Friday, Risen, dressed in his Men's Wearhouse shirt and khakis and his brown Ecco walking shoes, talked about having the sword of Damocles over his head, as the reluctant star of a searing media-government showdown that could end with him behind bars.

"It's surreal to be caught up in a news story instead of writing about one," he said, in his soft voice.

He said he was inspired by the Watergate hearings to get into journalism and that he inherited his skepticism about government from his mom, who grew up in Indiana during the Depression, the daughter of an Irish railway machinist who was often out of work. Every time she saw the pyramids on TV, she would say, "I wonder how many slaves died building that?" Risen said he's not afraid that FBI agents will show up one day at the suburban Maryland home he shares with his wife, Penny. (His three sons are grown, and one is a reporter.) But he has exhausted all his legal challenges, including at the Supreme Court, against the Obama administration. "I was nervous for a long time, but they've been after me for six years so now I try to ignore it," he said, musing that he's already decided what he'll take to prison: Civil War books and World War II histories. The Justice Department is trying to scuttle the reporters' privilege - ignoring the chilling effect that is having on truth emerging in a jittery post-9/11 world prone to egregious government excesses.

Attorney General Eric Holder wants to force Risen to testify and reveal the identity of his confidential source on a story he had in his 2006 book concerning a bungled CIA operation during the Clinton administration in which agents might have inadvertently helped Iran develop its nuclear weapon program. The tale made the CIA look silly, which may have been more of a sore point than a threat to national security.

But Bush officials, no doubt still smarting from Risen's revelation of their illegal wiretapping, zeroed in on a disillusioned former CIA agent named Jeffrey Sterling as the source of the Iran story.

The subpoena forcing Risen's testimony expired in 2009, and to the surprise of just about everybody, the constitutional law professor's administration renewed it - kicking off its strange and awful aggression against reporters and

whistle-blowers.

Holder said in May that "no reporter who is doing his job is going to go to jail," trying to show some leg and signal that his intention is benign, merely to put pressure on Sterling so that he will plead guilty before his trial.

The president and the attorney general both spoke nobly about the First Amendment after two reporters were arrested in Ferguson, Missouri, while covering the racial protests in the wake of Michael Brown's death. Obama said that "here, in the United States of America, police should not be bullying or arresting journalists who are just trying to do their jobs and report to the American people on what they see on the ground." Holder seconded the sentiment, saying that "journalists must not be harassed or prevented from covering a story that needs to be told." So why don't they back off Risen? It's hard to fathom how the president who started with the press fluffing his pillows has ended up trying to suffocate the press with those pillows. How can he use the Espionage Act to throw reporters and whistle-blowers in jail even as he defends the intelligence operatives who "tortured some folks," and coddles his CIA chief, John Brennan, who spied on the Senate and then lied to the senators he spied on about it?

"It's hypocritical," Risen said. "A lot of people still think this is some kind of game or signal or spin. They don't want to believe that Obama wants to crack down on the press and whistle-blowers. But he does. He's the greatest enemy to press freedom in a generation." Risen points to recent stories about the administration pressing an unprecedented initiative known as the Insider Threat Program, which McClatchy described as "a government-wide crackdown on security threats that requires federal employees to keep closer tabs on their co-workers and exhorts managers to punish those who fail to report their suspicions."

Risen may be trapped in Ibsen, but Obama is channeling Orwell. □

A Celebration of Summer: Swordplay On The Grill

DAVID TANIS

© 2014 New York Times

You put something edible on a stick, add something to improve the flavor and hold it over a fire. That's cooking, on a primordial level.

There are all kinds of cooking sticks. Some are made from bamboo or wood, and there are flat metal ones with ornate handles. I imagine that throughout history, whenever soldiers carried swords, arrows or bayonets, those tools of war became cooking implements by night.

In French, the term à la broche means spit-roasted, as in a whole animal turning on a long metal rod over hot coals. A smaller portion, with a shorter stick, is called a brochette.

What I'm supplying are recipes for three kinds of delicious, diminutive brochettes, threaded on bamboo skewers: pork spiced with red chili; chicken in a curry-coconut sauce; and shrimp infused with garlic, parsley and basil.

But I'm also giving a recipe for an easy party.

Ideally, one would invite friends over for an outdoor affair on a perfect summer day. Not a dinner party, but there must be tantalizing food, of course.

Those little brochettes will be sizzling over glowing coals, and the air will be filled with wafts of savory aromas as your guests arrive. (Lacking this idyllic setting, you could use a grill pan or broiler indoors and still have fun.)

Then all you need are a few colorful salads: a gorgeous platter of tomatoes with basil, a giant bowl of green beans vinaigrette, that sort of thing. To make things even easier, give the grilling duties to some nice volunteer.

The great thing about this particular party is that all the fiddly stuff can be prepared ahead. You can prep the brochettes the day before. Cut the meat into cubes and get it skewered. I use the double-skewer method, threading both through each piece of meat, instead of a single skewer, to prevent the ingredients from twirling about.

This is not necessary if you use flat metal skewers, rather than bamboo. You can even make all three sauces in advance, and they

won't suffer a bit.

And then there's a little bonus. You use only a few tablespoons of each sauce as a marinade, rubbing it into the meat. The remaining sauce can be dabbed or dipped as necessary.

These brochettes are small, only 2 to 3 ounces. That way, everyone gets a taste of each. But for me, the ideal way to serve them is to have a basket of small pita or other flatbreads or little rolls. Then just slide the

1/2 teaspoon coarsely ground black pepper, more for seasoning

6 garlic cloves, smashed to a paste

1 cup basil leaves, loosely packed

1 cup parsley leaves, loosely packed

1/2 teaspoon crushed red pepper

1 teaspoon lemon zest

1 cup olive oil

Lemon wedges, for serving

1. Season shrimp lightly on both sides with salt and

in one layer. Spoon 8 tablespoons green mixture over shrimp and spread to cover evenly. (Save remaining sauce.) Leave at room temperature for 1 hour, or refrigerate several hours, then bring to room temperature.

5. Grill brochettes over medium-hot fire for about 3 minutes per side. Serve with lemon wedges and reserved green sauce.

RED CHILI PORK BROCHETTES

Time: 45 minutes, plus at least 1 hour's marinating

Yield: 8 skewers

1 1/2 to 2 pounds well-marbled pork shoulder, cut into 3/4-inch slices

Kosher salt

2 tablespoons hot New Mexico red chili powder, more for seasoning meat (may substitute ancho or guajillo chili powder)

1 large tomato, about 3/4 pound

4 garlic cloves, mashed to a paste

2 tablespoons lime juice

2 tablespoons olive oil

1 tablespoon toasted coarsely ground cumin

1. Cut pork into 2-by-2-by- 3/4-inch pieces. (You should have about 24 pieces.) Mix 1 tablespoon salt and 1 teaspoon chili powder. Use mixture to season pork on both sides.

2. To skewer, lay meat flat on cutting board. Thread meat onto 2 skewers spaced equidistant from center; do this first with one skewer, then the other. Put 3 pieces of pork onto each set of skewers, for 8 brochettes total.

3. Cook the tomato (left whole) over hot coals or under broiler until charred and blackened, about 5 minutes. Cut in quarters but do not remove skin.

4. In a blender or food processor, put 1/2 teaspoon salt, 2 tablespoons chili powder, the charred tomato, the garlic, the lime juice, the olive oil and 1 teaspoon cumin. Blend to obtain a smooth sauce and transfer to a bowl.

5. Lay brochettes on a tray in 1 layer. Spoon 8 tablespoons chili sauce over pork and spread to cover evenly. (Save remaining sauce.) Leave at room temperature for 1 hour, or refrigerate several hours, then bring to room temperature.

6. Grill over medium-hot fire for about 3 minutes per

side. Sprinkle with remaining toasted cumin. Serve with reserved sauce.

COCONUT CURRY CHICKEN SKEWERS

Time: 45 minutes, plus at least 1 hour's marinating

Yield: 8 skewers

1 1/2 pounds skinless boneless chicken breasts or thighs

Kosher salt

1 teaspoon turmeric, more for seasoning meat

1/4 teaspoon cayenne, more for seasoning meat

2 teaspoons garam masala

Zest and juice of 1 small lime

1 1/2 cups thick coconut milk

2 tablespoons grated ginger

3 tablespoons grated unsweetened coconut, fresh or frozen

1 tablespoon vegetable oil

1/2 teaspoon yellow or black mustard seeds

1. Cut chicken into flat 2-by-2-inch pieces. (You should have about 24 pieces.)

Mix 1 tablespoon salt, 1/4 teaspoon turmeric and 1/8 teaspoon cayenne. Use mixture to season chicken lightly on both sides.

2. To skewer, lay meat flat on cutting board. Thread meat onto 2 skewers spaced equidistant from center; do this first with one skewer, then the other. Put 3 pieces of chicken onto each set of skewers, for 8 brochettes total.

3. In a blender, put 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1 teaspoon turmeric, 1/4 teaspoon cayenne, garam masala, lime zest and juice, coconut milk, ginger and grated coconut. Blend to obtain a smooth sauce. Transfer to a bowl.

4. Put oil in a small pan over medium heat. Add mustard seeds and let them pop. (This takes only a few seconds.)

Pour oil and seeds into the coconut curry mixture and stir.

5. Lay brochettes on a tray in one layer. Spoon 8 tablespoons curry mixture over chicken and spread to cover evenly on both sides. (Save remaining sauce.) Leave at room temperature for 1 hour, or refrigerate several hours, then bring to room temperature.

6. Grill over medium-hot fire for about 3 minutes per side (longer if using thighs), until meat feels firm when poked with a finger. Serve with reserved sauce. □



Grilled skewers of seasoned shrimp, pork and chicken, in New York. The pork is spiced with a red chile sauce, the chicken with a curry-coconut sauce and the shrimp is infused with garlic, parsley and basil.

(Stephen Scott Gross/The New York Times)

meat off the skewers and let people make their own bite-size sandwiches. It's all very casual and hands-on, and the snacking and grilling can continue into the night.

Voilà: a brochette fête. A celebration of summer.

GARLIC SHRIMP BROCHETTES

Time: 45 minutes, plus at least 1 hour marinating

Yield: 8 skewers

1 pound large shrimp (preferably wild), peeled and deveined

1/2 teaspoon kosher salt, more for seasoning

pepper.

2. To skewer, lay shrimp flat on cutting board. Thread shrimp onto two skewers spaced equidistant from center; do this first with one skewer, then the other. Put two or three shrimp onto each set of skewers, for eight brochettes total.

3. In a blender or food processor, put 1/2 teaspoon salt, 1/2 teaspoon black pepper, the garlic, the basil, the parsley, the red pepper and the zest. Pulse to coarsely grind ingredients. Add oil; blend to a rough sauce.

4. Lay brochettes on a tray